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ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS USE BY CANADIAN YOUTH

canada's drug strategy

Canada

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS USE BY CANADIAN YOUTH

A NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS SURVEY (1989) REPORT

Technical Report

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For the
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Health Services and Promotion Branch
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** The opinions expressed in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Health and Welfare Canada.*

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PREFACE

This is the third in a series of reports describing the results of Canada's National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey(1989). This report focuses on consumption of alcohol and other drugs by youth and young adults aged 15 to 24, related behaviour and consequences. The survey was carried out by Statistics Canada on behalf of Health and Welfare Canada in March 1989. In total, 11,634 adult Canadians 15 years of age or over participated in the survey, including 1,887 youth and young adults aged 15 to 24. Respondents were asked a broad array of questions about their use of alcohol and other drugs, the extent of use, patterns of use and the circumstances and settings associated with use. They were questioned about health, social and economic problems arising from the misuse of alcohol, illicit, prescription and over-the-counter drugs, and they were asked what could be done to prevent such problems. All respondents were guaranteed complete anonymity and confidentiality.

The survey results provide a solid basis for evaluating the dimensions of the problems caused by alcohol and other drugs use among Canadian youth. This report is intended to inform policy and program development throughout Canada, to stimulate dialogue and debate among practitioners in the field, to provide a basis for further research and, especially, to equip Canadians with the information they need to make informed decisions about alcohol and other drug use.

Despite its impressive scope, the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey (NADS) has a number of limitations. It excludes certain groups, such as adolescents under 15, the homeless, and people living in institutions. As well, only a limited number of the thousands of psychotropic and other substances currently available in Canada could be studied. Separate investigations focusing upon these important topics will be undertaken elsewhere to complete the picture.

Research into drug abuse in Canada is still in its infancy, and the nature and extent of the problem needs more documentation. This study makes an important contribution to bridging the information gap, and paving the way toward effective long-term action.

Canada's Drug Strategy

The National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey is part of Canada's Drug Strategy (CDS). The Strategy was launched on May 27, 1987. It is based on extensive consultation between the federal government, provincial and territorial governments, non-governmental organizations and addiction experts.

The federal government allocated $210 million over five years to enhance existing programs and to fund initiatives in five federal departments.

The objective of the CDS is to reduce the harmful effects of substance abuse on individuals, families and communities by addressing both the supply and demand sides of the problem.

Canada's Drug Strategy balances prevention / education measures on the one hand with interdiction / enforcement measures on the other. It is founded on the premise that long-term reduction in substance abuse can only be achieved by addressing the root cause of the problem – the demand. Thus, about 70% of Drug Strategy resources are directed at the priority areas of education, prevention and treatment.

When Canada's Drug Strategy was launched, five federal departments received funding for new initiatives under the leadership of Health and Welfare Canada. The overall Strategy however comprises many federal departments. Some received new funding for programs already in existence when CDS was announced. Others have subsequently developed or are in the process of developing programs related to combatting alcohol and other drugs abuse. All are partners in Canada's Drug Strategy – as are the provinces and territories, and organizations receiving federal funds for programs aimed at reducing alcohol and other drug abuse.

At the present time, 14 federal departments and agencies, all of the provinces and territories and hundreds of non-government organizations can be counted as partners in Canada's Drug Strategy.

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Alcohol and Other Drugs Use by Canadian Youth
A National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey (1989) Report

METHODS

- Telephone interviews were conducted in March 1989 with 11,634 adult Canadians aged 15 years and older, selected at random from all ten provinces. The response rate to the survey was 79%, indicative of a highly representative sample of Canadians.

- This report focuses specifically on questionnaire responses provided by 1,887 youth and young adults aged 15 to 24. Selected comparisons are also made between youth and older respondents.

ALCOHOL USE

Prevalence

- About eight in ten (81%) Canadians aged 15 to 24 are current drinkers; that is, they have consumed alcohol at least once during the 12 months prior to the survey. An additional 11% are former drinkers, having consumed alcohol at some time in their life, but not within the previous 12 months, while 8% report that they have never consumed an alcoholic beverage.

- Fewer young Canadians are drinking and those who are drinking are drinking less. The percentage of current drinkers declined from 81% in 1985 to 74% in 1989 among 15- to 19-year-olds and from 92% in 1985 to 88% in 1989 among 20- to 24-year-olds.

- The amount of alcohol consumed has also declined. Among 15- to 19-year-old drinkers, the average number of drinks consumed during the seven days prior to the survey declined from 3.3 drinks in 1985 to 2.4 in 1989. Among 20- to 24-year-old drinkers, consumption declined from 6.0 drinks in 1985 to 4.3 in 1989.

Frequency

- Most drinkers aged 15 to 24 drink infrequently. About 29% drink less than once per month, 28% drink one to three times per month, 21% drink about once a week, and 22% drink two or more times per week.

Quantity

- On average, current drinkers consumed 3.4 drinks during the seven days prior to the survey.

- About half (52%) of all drinkers aged 15 to 24 did not drink during the seven days prior to the survey. One-third (34%) consumed between one and seven drinks, and 14% consumed eight drinks or more.

Patterns of Alcohol Use

Geographic

- The proportion of Canadians aged 15 to 24 who are current drinkers tends to increase from east to west, with the Atlantic provinces having the lowest rate (75%), followed by Ontario (78%), Quebec (83%), the Prairie provinces (87%) and British Columbia (86%).

- Canadians from the Atlantic provinces also consume less alcohol than those from other regions. On average, the number of drinks consumed per week by people in Atlantic Canada was 2.5 drinks, followed by Quebec (3.0 drinks), Ontario and British Columbia (3.6 drinks) and the Prairie provinces (4.1 drinks).

Gender

- Male youth are more likely to be current drinkers than are their female counterparts (85% vs. 78%), and differences between males and females tend to increase with age.

- Male drinkers consume more alcohol and consume it more frequently than do female drinkers. Over half (55%) of male drinkers consume alcohol weekly compared to 30% of female drinkers. Males consume, on average, 4.3 drinks per occasion, compared to 3.0 drinks among females. Males consumed 4.8 drinks during the seven days prior to the survey versus 1.9 drinks among female drinkers.

- Males also drink more heavily than do female drinkers. Forty-three percent of male drinkers consumed five or more drinks on six or more occasions in the year prior to the survey, compared to 20% of female drinkers.

Age

- Alcohol consumption increases with age. Some 63% of Canadians aged 15 or 16 consumed alcohol in the year prior to the survey, compared to 80% of 17- to 19-year-olds and 83% of 20-to 24-year-olds.

- Older youth, those aged 20 to 24 years, report more frequent and heavier drinking than do younger youth. Twenty-eight percent of 20- to 24-year-olds drink at least twice a week versus 7% of 15- and 16-year-olds. On average, 20- to 24-year-olds consume 4.3 drinks per week, followed by 3.0 drinks among 17- to 19-year-olds and 1.0 drink among those aged 15 and 16. Seventy-one percent of 20-24 year old drinkers report consuming five or more drinks on a single occasion versus 53% of 15- and 16-year-olds.

Alcohol-related Problems

Problems Due to Own Use

- About one-quarter (23%) of drinkers aged 15 to 24 report experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey.

- The most frequently cited problems among drinkers were physical health (11%), followed by problems with friends and social relations (9%), financial problems (9%), happiness and outlook (6%), work or school (5%) and home life (5%).

- Among drinkers aged 15 to 24, males are more likely than females to report alcohol-related problems (28% vs. 18%).

- Drinkers aged 15 to 24 report the highest rate of experiencing an alcohol problem (23%) versus all other age groups (13% among 25- to 34-year-olds, 11% among 35- to 44-year-olds, 8% among 45- to 54-year-olds, 5% among 55- to 64-year-olds, and 4% among those 65 and older).

- Five percent of drinkers aged 15 to 24 report experiencing three or more alcohol-related problems during the 12 months prior to the survey.

Drinking and Driving

- About one in five (21%) drivers aged 15 to 19 and one-third (30%) of drivers aged 20 to 24 report driving within an hour of consuming two or more alcoholic beverages.

- Regardless of age, male drivers are more likely than female drivers to drink and drive.

Problems Due to Others' Drinking

- Sixty-nine percent of young Canadians surveyed report experiencing at least one of ten problems caused by other people's drinking during the 12 months prior to the survey. The most commonly cited problems were being humiliated or insulted (38%), being disturbed by loud parties (35%), having arguments (32%), being the passenger with a drinking driver (23%), being pushed, hit or assaulted (18%).

- Female youth were more likely than male youth to experience family problems due to someone else drinking (17% vs. 7%), while male youth were more likely to report being a passenger in a car with a drinking driver (27% vs. 19%), or being pushed, hit or assaulted (21% vs. 14%).

Reasons for Drinking

- The most common reasons given by youth for their drinking were to be sociable (69%), to feel good (42%), to relax (39%), to enjoy meals (32%), to feel less inhibited or less shy (23%), and to forget worries (16%).

- Drinking for sociability or relaxation increases with age, while drinking to forget worries and to feel less inhibited or shy decreases with age.

- Reasons for drinking are related to consumption. Youth who report drinking to forget worries consume more drinks per week (6.5 drinks) compared with those who report drinking for social reasons (3.8 drinks).

Drinking Companions and Settings

- Drinking among youth is a social activity. The majority of drinkers (84%) report never drinking alone; 8% drank alone less than once a month, and 7% drank alone at least once a month.

- Friends are by far the most frequent drinking companions of youth. About two-thirds (65%) of drinkers consumed alcohol with friends at least once a month, followed by family members (24%), and co-workers or students (19%).

- Regardless of age or gender, youth are most likely to drink when they engage in the following activities: go to a bar or tavern; attend a party, social occasion or wedding; engage in an outdoor leisure activity; or attend a concert, sports game or festival.

Attitudes toward Drinking

- The majority of Canadian youth believe that at least some drinking is acceptable at bars, parties and with friends at home.

- Drinking is less accepted for co-workers having lunch, with people at sports events, and with friends after work.

- Young males tend to hold less restrictive attitudes about drinking than do female youth.

CIGARETTE SMOKING

- Thirty percent of Canadians aged 15 to 24 are current smokers; and 14 percent are former smokers (i.e., smoked in their lifetime but not in the 12 months prior to the survey). Among smokers, 35% smoked less than 11 cigarettes daily, 58% smoked between 11 and 25 cigarettes, and 4% smoked 25 or more cigarettes daily.

- Current smoking is highest among youth in the Prairie provinces (35%), followed by the Atlantic provinces (34%), Quebec (31%), Ontario (29%) and British Columbia (20%). However, smoking more than 25 cigarettes daily is highest among youth smokers from Quebec (6.3%) and British Columbia (6.0%), followed by the Atlantic provinces (5.4%), Ontario (3.0%) and the Prairie provinces (1.9%).

- The prevalence and level of smoking increases with age. Thirteen percent of 15- to 16-year-olds are current smokers, compared to 28% of 17- to 19-year-olds and 37% or 20- to 24-year-olds.

- Rates of current smoking vary little by gender; about one-third of males and females report current smoking.

OTHER DRUGS

- About one-third (34%) of Canadian youth report having used an illicit drug at some point in their life. Use of an illicit drug is more likely among males (37%) than females (30%), and increases with age (15% among 15- to 16-year-olds, 28% among 17- to 19-year-olds and 43% among 20- to 24-year-olds).

- Cannabis (marijuana or hash) is the most commonly used illicit drug, used by 34% of young Canadians during their lifetime and by 16% during the 12 months prior to the survey. Use of cannabis during the year prior to the survey was more common among males than females (19% vs. 12%) and increases with age (11% among 15- to 16-year-olds, 13% among 17- to 19-year-olds and 18% among 20-to 24-year-olds). Cannabis use is most common in British Columbia (28%), followed by Quebec (17%), and the Prairie and Atlantic provinces and Ontario (all 13%). Similar relationships hold for frequency of cannabis use.

- About 5% of Canadian youth reported using cocaine during their lifetime, and 3% reported use during the 12 months prior to the survey. Cocaine use does not vary significantly by gender, but does increase with age (3.5% among 17- to 19-year-olds vs. 7.0% among 20- to 24-year-olds). Cocaine use during the respondent's lifetime is highest among youth in British Columbia (9%), followed by Quebec (7.5%), the Prairie provinces (4.3%), Ontario (3.1%) and the Atlantic provinces (1.3%).

- LSD, speed (methamphetamine) or heroin were used by 4.6% of youth at least once in their lifetime, and 1.6% used one of these substances during the 12 months prior to the survey.

LICIT DRUGS

- Among those aged 15 to 24 the most prevalent licit substance used during the 30 days preceding the survey were narcotic analgesics – codeine, demerol or morphine – used by 5.6%. Other licit substances were used by 1% or less.

- Use of licit substances were more commonly used among older adults than among younger adults and youth.

PATTERNS OF MULTIPLE DRUG USE

- The pattern of alcohol and other drug use between youth (15 to 19) and young adults (20 to 24) differ in important ways. Compared to youth, young adults were less likely to use no drugs (20.9% vs. 8.5%), were more likely to use alcohol and tobacco (11.8% vs. 20.7%), were more likely to use alcohol, tobacco and a medical substance (0.9% vs. 3.3%), and were more likely to use alcohol, tobacco and cannabis (3.8% vs. 7.9%).

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

There is ample evidence to suggest that the abuse of alcohol and other drugs affects a significant number of Canadians directly, and many more, indirectly.

Past research efforts, such as the 1985 Health Promotion Survey, generated information on the use of alcohol and other drugs that has proven useful to researchers and practitioners. These efforts also demonstrated the need for an information database that could be used for an in-depth exploration of alcohol and other drug topics.

The development of this database has been a top priority of Canada's Drug Strategy (CDS). The CDS was launched on May 27, 1987, by the Minister of National Health and Welfare, with the objective of reducing harm to individuals, families and communities from the abuse of drugs (Beatty, 1991).

The National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey (NADS) is the first major Canadian study with an exclusive focus on alcohol and other drug-related issues (see Appendix). The objectives of the study are to document:

- national and regional patterns of alcohol and other drug consumption;
- reasons for using alcohol and other drugs;
- where and when people use alcohol and other drugs;
- the role played by family members and friends with regard to alcohol and other drug-related behaviour;
- consequences of consumption of alcohol and other drugs;
- actions taken in response to, or in anticipation of, these consequences; and
- attitudes and beliefs held by Canadians on alcohol and other drug use, and their opinions on related policy issues.

Methods

The data for the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey were collected through telephone interviews. The total sample consisted of interviews among 11,634 Canadians, 15 years of age and older, from all 10 provinces, excluding residents of institutions such as prisons and hospitals. Due to special sampling requirements, separate surveys will be conducted in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories. The exclusion of these populations should not significantly affect national averages.

Seventy-nine percent of those contacted responded to the interviews. This high response rate increases confidence in the representativeness of the sample.

This report restricts attention to 1,887 young Canadians aged 15 to 24 years. Although the focus of this report is on youth, in some sections comparisons are made with other age groups to show the considerable differences that occur across the lifespan. Indeed, it is important to recognize that alcohol and other drug use can differ dramatically even among those aged 15 to 24. As well, the report briefly describes trends in alcohol and other drug use among youth as noted by surveys conducted by Health and Welfare Canada and the Addiction Research Foundation of Ontario. (See Eliany et al. 1990, for survey results regarding the total sample aged 15 and over.)

Statistics Canada conducted the interviews on behalf of Health and Welfare Canada in March 1989. Households were selected using random digit-dialling methods so that most Canadian households were equally likely to be selected. The data were weighted to take into account households without phones, persons who did not respond, multiple telephones in households, the number of persons in the household, census projection counts for the provinces, and the age and sex of the population.

Respondents were asked to report about specific periods, for example, the number of alcoholic beverages consumed in the week prior to the survey. Random sampling takes into account the possibility that some respondents may have had atypically high or low consumption levels during that period. Thus, the report discusses the average number of drinks consumed per week on the assumption that the number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey provides a reliable estimate of this statistic.

Conducting the survey in March also ensures that special holidays do not inflate estimates of drinking.

All findings in this report were examined for statistical significance. Measures of the reliability of the data, known as the sampling error of the estimate or the coefficient of variation (CV), were used to determine whether findings were suitable for release. In the tables appended to this report, estimates with a CV between 16.5% and 33.0% are marked with an asterisk (*) to indicate that they should be interpreted with caution. Estimates with a CV exceeding 33.0% are not considered reliable and were thus omitted from this publication. (See Appendix on Methodology for additional detail.)

All percentages in the discussions of alcohol use have been rounded off without decimal places. Totals may therefore not equate exactly to 100%. Because a smaller percentage of Canadians use illicit and licit drugs, all percentages in the discussion of drug use are given to one decimal place.

Throughout, differences in responses are expressed as "percentage points," that is, relative to the total response rather than just to those answering the question. For example, a decrease from 77% to 67% is shown as a decrease of 10 percentage points (77-67 = 10), not as a decrease of 13 percent (10/77 x 100).

The findings reported here are based primarily upon descriptive cross-tabulations: they do not attempt to control for the effects of associated phenomena. As such, they should be interpreted with appropriate caution.

Limitations of the Survey

Despite the size and scope of the survey, several important limitations to the data provided here should be considered at the outset.

First, the emphasis in this survey is primarily on alcohol use and secondarily on other drugs. Previous research clearly supports such an emphasis since alcohol is a much greater problem whether considered in terms of extent of use or of problems associated with use.

Second, only a limited range of drugs could be considered in this survey. There are literally thousands of psychotropic and other substances that affect the health of Canadians, and no one study could cover each of these adequately. Consequently, the survey focused upon those drugs that, by virtue of their frequency, quantity and circumstances of use, were most likely to be linked to health or other problems.

Third, the relatively small numbers of users of certain drugs inhibits detailed descriptions of the characteristics of the users and the consequences associated with use. In-depth studies of known user populations are a more appropriate means for addressing these issues.

Fourth, institutionalized Canadians and those not accessible by telephone were excluded from the survey. Patterns of use within these groups can be expected to be significantly different from those of the general population (for youth in particular, see Radford et al. 1989; Smart et al. 1990). Special studies of these populations will be required to supplement the data provided in this report.

Finally, a major concern in any survey of alcohol and other drug use is the accuracy of self-reported data. Wherever possible, this survey adopted standard questions that have proven to be effective in previous research. Further, conforming to the Statistics Act, all respondents were given assurances of anonymity and confidentiality. Allowing respondents to remain anonymous increases the response rate and improves the likelihood that they will respond truthfully to sensitive questions (Bradburn 1985; Gfroerer 1985; Murray and Perry 1987). Confidence in the data can also be bolstered by the high level of response – greater than 99% for most questions.

Research has shown self-reports of drinking to have considerable reliability (Fitzgerald and Mulford 1978; Khavari and Farmer 1978). The validity of self-reported data on drug use is also supported by a growing body of literature (Akers et al. 1983; Bachman and O'Malley 1981; O'Malley et al. 1983; Single et al. 1975; Smart and Jarvis 1981). Although there may be some under-estimation regarding the frequency and quantity of alcohol and other drug use, this should not impair intergroup comparisons (Smart and Adlaf 1987).

However, some degree of under-reporting of alcohol and other drug use can be expected, and the problem of under-reporting is likely to vary depending upon the substance under consideration. For example, in the case of prescription drugs, many respondents may simply not be aware of the specific classes of drugs they have been consuming. In the case of illicit drugs, many people may be reluctant to admit use.

Consequently, these estimates should be considered not solely on their own merits, but also within the larger context of the emerging body of information on alcohol and other drug use in Canada. Each potential source of such information has certain advantages, as well as definite limitations. Together, they allow us to produce an increasingly valid and accurate portrait of the problem.

PART ONE: DRINKING BY CANADIAN YOUTH

This section examines the drinking practices of Canadians, 15 to 24 years of age. Most national and international surveys use age 15 and older to define the general adult population. It is important to note, however, many begin using alcohol and may experience problems with alcohol before this age. Respondents were asked to report on both the frequency and the level of their alcohol consumption. The survey also documented where and when young drinkers consume alcohol, why they drink, who they drink with, the prevalence of alcohol-related problems and attitudes towards alcohol use in specific situations.

Definitions

Throughout this report the term ***current drinkers*** is used to describe those Canadians who have consumed at least one drink in the 12 months preceding the survey (Q12 in Appendix A). This definition was used in the 1985 Health Promotion Survey (Health and Welfare Canada 1988) and is also standard in American research (e.g., Clark and Midanik 1982).

A "drink" is defined as:
- one bottle of beer or glass of draft; or
- one glass of wine or a wine cooler; or
- one straight or mixed drink with 44 ml (1.5 oz.) of hard liquor.

Canadians who have consumed alcohol at some time in their life, but not during the 12 months preceding the survey, are referred to as ***former drinkers***. Those individuals who report they have "never" consumed an alcoholic beverage are referred to as ***lifetime abstainers***.

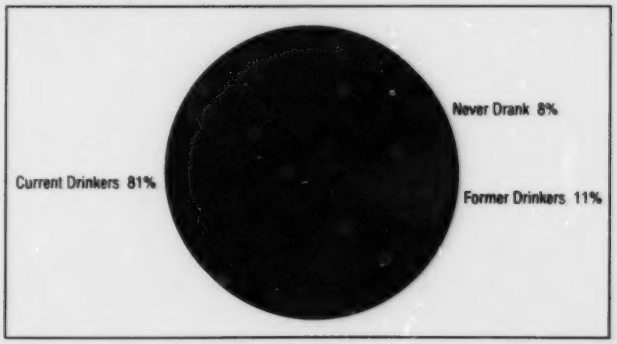
"Level of alcohol consumption" refers to both "frequency" and "quantity" of use. Frequency refers to how often, on average, Canadians consumed alcoholic beverages in the 12 months preceding the survey (Q19 in Appendix A). Quantity is based upon responses to survey questions about the number of alcoholic beverages consumed by the respondents during each of the seven days preceding the interview (Q24 in Appendix A). Weekly consumption estimates are based upon responses to these questions. Another "quantity measure" discussed in this report refers to the usual number of drinks consumed per drinking occasion (Q20 in Appendix A).

Finally, the survey also examined episodes of ***heavy drinking activity***. Heavy drinking is commonly defined as the consumption of five or more drinks on a single occasion (Johnston et al. 1989; Chamberlayne et al. 1988; Smart and Adlaf, 1989). Consistent with past research, heavy drinking activity is considered in this report to be the number of times in the previous 12 months the respondent consumed five or more drinks on one occasion (Q22 in Appendix A).

PREVALENCE OF ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

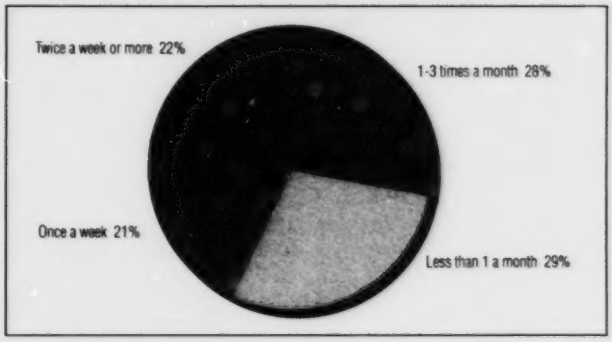
Eight out of every ten young Canadians (81%), 15 to 24 years of age, report consuming at least one alcoholic beverage in the 12 months prior to the 1989 survey. An additional 11% are former drinkers, having consumed alcohol at sometime in their life, but not within the 12 months preceding the survey. Thus, 92% of Canadian youth have at least some experience with alcohol. Only 8% report that they have never consumed an alcoholic beverage (Figure 1; Table 1).

■ **Fig. 1: The Drinking Status of Young Canadians, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



For most young Canadians, alcohol consumption is a relatively infrequent activity (Figure 2). Almost one out of every three drinkers (29%), 15 to 24 years of age, reports drinking, on average, less than once per month. An additional 28% drink between one and three times per month. Thus, over half of all young current drinkers (57%) report consuming alcohol less than once per week. Twenty-one percent of young drinkers consume alcohol, on average, once per week. One out of every five (22%) usually drinks two or more times per week. The average young drinker consumes approximately 3.7 drinks per drinking occasion (Table 2).

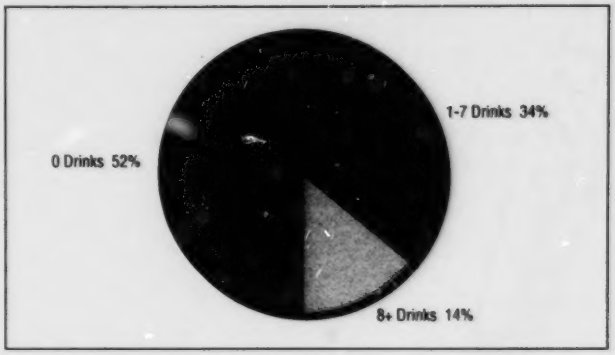
■ **Fig. 2: Frequency of Alcohol Consumption Among Young Drinkers, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



Over half (52%) of all current drinkers, 15 to 24 years of age, did not consume a drink in the week prior to the survey (Figure 3). This finding is consistent with the fact that over half of all young drinkers (57%) report drinking less than once per week (Table 2). Approximately 34% of young drinkers consumed between one and seven drinks in the week preceding the survey, while 14% consumed eight drinks or more (Table 1).

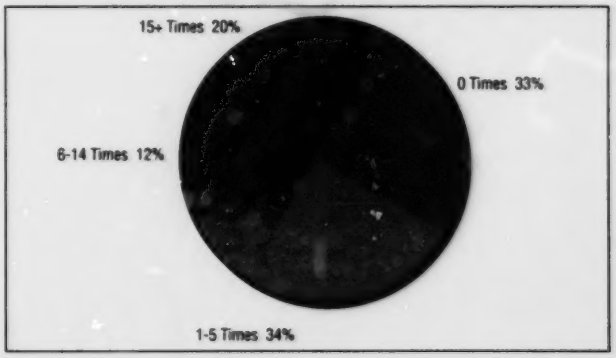
The results indicate that current drinkers, 15 to 24 years of age, consume approximately 3.4 drinks per week (Table 1). This average, however, is heavily influenced by the 14% who report drinking eight or more drinks. American research suggests that the 10% of drinkers who drink the most heavily are responsible for over half of all alcohol consumed (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 1987).

■ **Fig. 3: Number of Drinks Consumed by Young Drinkers in the Week Preceding the survey, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



Two out of every three current drinkers (67%), 15 to 24 years of age, report consuming 5 or more drinks on at least one occasion during the 12 months preceding the survey. One-third (35%) drank at this level on only one to five occasions. One out of every ten young drinkers (12%) consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion between 6 and 14 times, and 20% did so 15 times or more (Figure 4; Table 3).

■ **Fig. 4: Number of Times in the Year Preceding the Survey that Young Drinkers Consumed 5+ Drinks on a single Occasion, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**

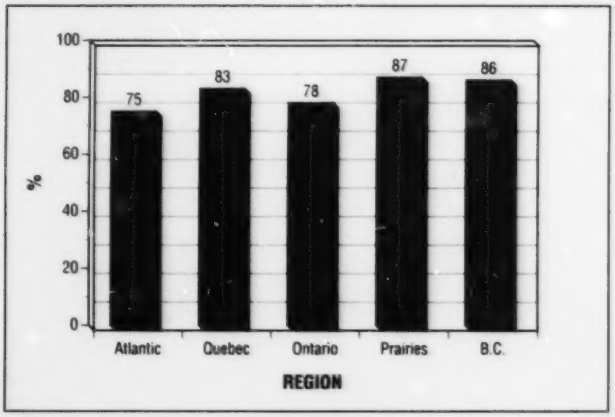


PATTERNS OF ALCOHOL USE

Region

In general, alcohol consumption among young Canadians, aged 15 to 24, increases from east to west (Figure 5; Table 4). The Prairie provinces (87%) and British Columbia (86%) have the highest percentage of young current drinkers, followed by Quebec (83%), Ontario (78%) and the Atlantic provinces (75%). Ontario and the Atlantic provinces are the only regions which drop below the national average (81%).

■ **Fig. 5: Percentage of Current Drinkers by Region, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



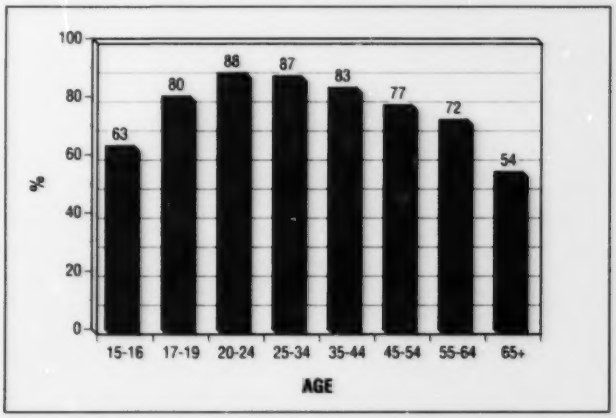
Young people living in the Atlantic provinces consume alcohol less frequently than their counterparts in other regions of the nation (Table 5). For example, only 13% of the young drinkers living in the Atlantic region report consuming alcohol two or more times per week, compared to over 20% in all other regions.

Estimates of the average number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey suggest that the Prairie provinces have the highest overall level of alcohol consumption (4.1 drinks per week), followed by British Columbia and Ontario (3.6 drinks), Quebec (3.0 drinks) and the Atlantic provinces (2.5 drinks) (Table 4).

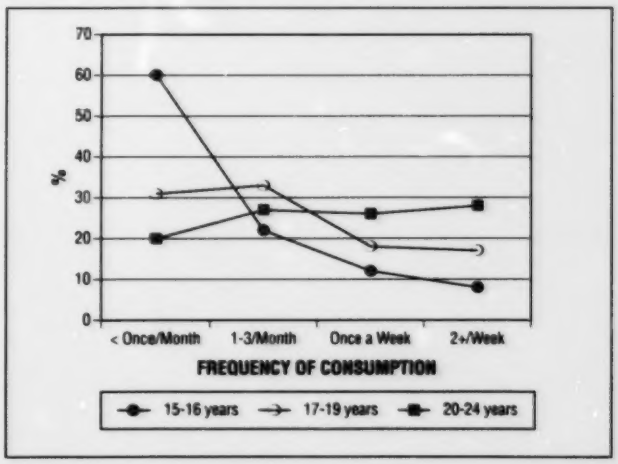
Table 5 suggests that drinkers from the Atlantic provinces may be at greater risk of experiencing negative consequences of drinking than are other youth. Although young drinkers from the Atlantic provinces tend to drink less frequently than their counterparts from other regions, on the occasions when they do drink, they tend to consume more alcohol (Table 5). Current drinkers, 15 to 24 years of age, from both the Atlantic and Prairie provinces consume an average of 4.3 drinks per occasion, followed by British Columbia (3.8 drinks), Ontario (3.5 drinks), and Quebec (3.2 drinks). Males from the Atlantic provinces consume more drinks per occasion (5.3) than any other group.

Young current drinkers from western Canada are more likely than their counterparts in other regions to engage in heavy drinking (Table 6). For example, 25% of those living in the Prairie provinces consumed five

■ **Fig. 6: Percentage of Current Drinkers, by Age, Canada 1989.**



■ **Fig. 7: Frequency of Alcohol Consumption, by Age, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the past year, followed by those living in British Columbia (23%), Ontario and Quebec (18%), and the Atlantic Provinces (15%).

Age

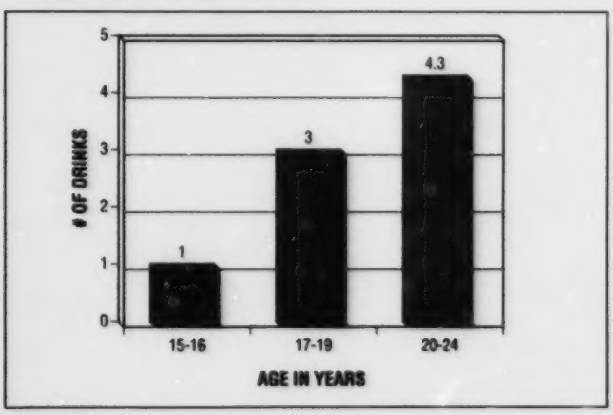
Among young Canadians, there is a positive relationship between age and the prevalence of alcohol consumption. In general, the percentage of young people reporting alcohol consumption in the year prior to the survey increases with age (Table 1). Sixty-three percent of Canadians 15 to 16 years of age consumed alcohol in the year preceding the survey, compared to 80% of 17- to 19-year-olds and 88% percent of 20- to 24-year-olds. For the entire Canadian population, those who are 20 to 24 years of age have the highest rate of current consumption, while 15- to 16-year-olds have the second lowest (Figure 6).

Young adults also drink more frequently and in greater quantity than those who are still in their teens (Figure 7). For example, 60% of 15- to 16-year-olds report drinking less than once per month, compared to only 20% of those who are aged 20 to 24. On the other hand, 27% of 20- to 24-year-olds report drinking at least twice per week, compared to only 7% of those who are 15 or 16 years of age. Those who are 20 to 24 years of age also have the highest level of weekly consumption (4.3 drinks per week), followed by 17- to 19-year-olds (3.0 drinks per week) and 15- to 16-year-olds (1.0 drink per week) (Figure 8).

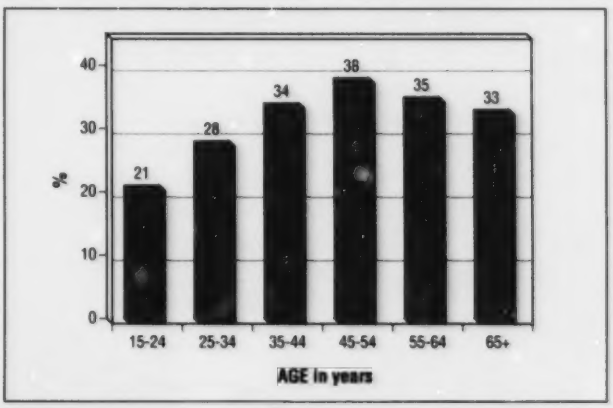
Heavy drinking is also more common among young adults than youth who are still in their teens (Table 3). For example, 71% of 20- to 24-year-olds report consuming five or more drinks on at least one occasion in the previous year, compared to 53% of the drinkers in the youngest age group. Similarly, one-quarter (23%) of 20-to 24-year-olds report consuming five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions, compared to 9% of 15-to 16-year-olds.

It is clear that the drinking style of young Canadians, aged 15 to 24, differs greatly from that of older individuals. In general, young current drinkers consume alcohol less often than their older counterparts (Figure 9), but are more likely to consume larger quantities of alcohol on the occasions when they do drink (Figure 10). This pattern of drinking, which often leads to intoxication, has been linked to alcohol-related problems.

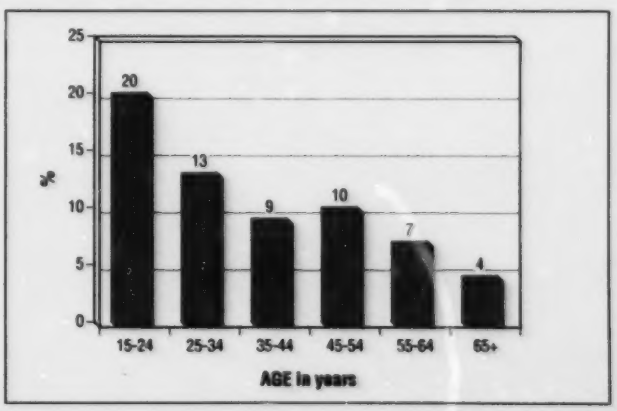
■ **Fig. 8: Average Number of Drinks per Week, by Age, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



■ **Fig. 9: Percentage of Current Drinkers who Consume Alcohol Twice a Week or More, by Age, Canada 1989.**



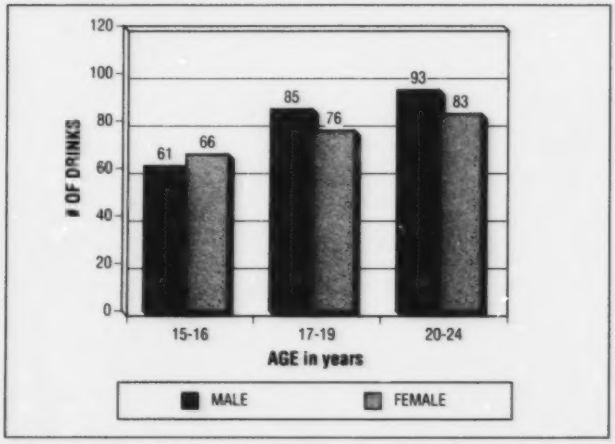
■ **Fig. 10: Percentage of Drinkers who Consumed Five or More Drinks in 15 or More Occasions in the Year Preceding the Survey, by Age, Canada 1989.**



Gender

The results indicate that male youth are more likely to be current drinkers than their female counterparts (Figure 11). Overall, 85% of males, 15 to 24 years of age, report consuming alcohol in the year preceding the survey, compared to 78% of females. The only exception to this general pattern occurs in the youngest age category. Fifteen- to sixteen-year-old females (66%) are slightly more likely to report being current drinkers than males of the same age (61%).

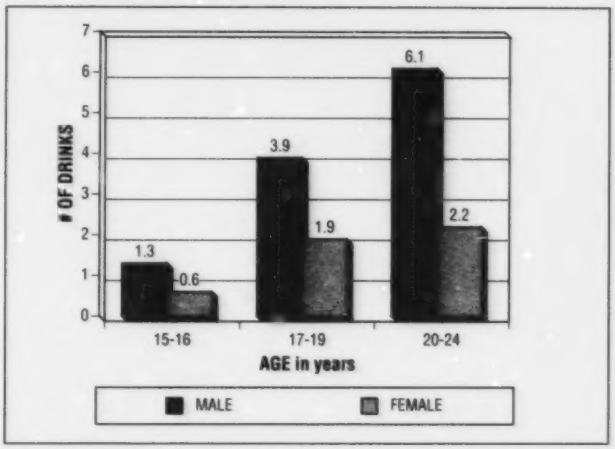
■ **Fig. 11: Percentage of Current Drinkers, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



Regardless of age, male youth consume alcohol more frequently than female youth and in greater quantity (Tables 1 and 2). For example, 54% of male current drinkers, aged 15 to 24 years, report that they consume alcohol at least once per week, compared to 30% of females. Furthermore, 29% of young male drinkers report that they consume alcohol two or more times per week, compared to 13% of female drinkers. In terms of quantity, men consume an average of 4.3 drinks per occasion, compared to 3.0 drinks for women.

Estimates of the number of drinks consumed in the week preceding the survey also serve to highlight male-female differences in drinking behaviour (Table 4). For example, 21% of young male drinkers report consuming eight or more drinks in the week preceding the survey, compared to 7% of young female drinkers. Overall, young males, 15 to 24 years of age, report consuming an average of 4.8 drinks per week, compared to 1.9 drinks for women. Men aged 20 to 24 consume more drinks per week (6.1) than any other group (Figure 12).

■ **Fig. 12: Average Number of Drinks per Week, Age 15 to 24, by Age and Sex, Canada 1989.**



The results also indicate that male youth are much more likely than females to engage in heavy drinking activity (Table 3). For example, approximately 43% of male drinkers, 15 to 24 years of age, report they consumed five or more drinks on at least six occasions in the year prior to the survey, compared to 20% of female drinkers. On the other hand, 42% of women report that they *never* consumed five or more drinks on a single occasion, compared to 25% of men.

Recent Trends

Data on the drinking practices of young Canadians from the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey can be compared with similar information collected by the 1985 Canada Health Survey (Health and Welfare Canada 1988). This comparison suggests a trend towards moderation in alcohol consumption: fewer Canadian youth are drinking and those who are drinking are drinking less.

The prevalence of alcohol consumption among young Canadians declined between 1985 and 1989 (Table A). For example, in 1985, 81% of 15- to 19-year-olds reported consuming alcohol in the year preceding the survey, compared to 74% in 1989 (a decrease of seven percentage points). Similarly, among those 20 to 24 years of age, the percentage of current drinkers

■ **Table A: Types of Drinkers, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1985[1] and 1989[2].**

TYPE OF DRINKER	1985	1989
Never Drank		
15-19 years	9.4%	11.6%
20-24 years	2.9%	3.8%
Former Drinker		
15-19 years	9.3%	14.1%
20-24 years	5.1%	8.3%
Current Drinker		
15-19 years	81.2%	74.3%
20-24 years	91.8%	87.9%
Average # of Drinks Per Week		
15-19 years	3.3	2.4
20-24 years	6.0	4.3

1. Canada'a Health Promotion Survey (Health and Welfare Canada 1988).
2. National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey (Health and Welfare Canada 1990).

dropped from 92% in 1985 to 88% in 1989. On the other hand, the percentage of both lifetime abstainers and former drinkers increased between 1985 and 1989.

Furthermore, the data also suggest that current levels of alcohol consumption among Canadian youth have also declined (Table A). In 1985, the average current drinker, 15 to 19 years of age, consumed 3.3 drinks per week, compared to 2.4 drinks in 1989. Similarly, 20- to 24-year-old drinkers consumed an average of 6.0 drinks per week in 1985, compared to 4.3 drinks in 1989. This reduction took place among both males and females (data not tabled).

Provincial student surveys have also documented recent declines in alcohol use (see Adlaf and Smart, 1991 for a review). Among Ontario students aged 12 to 19 years, the percentage of current drinkers declined from a peak of 77% in 1979 to 66% in 1989. Drinking among Catholic Francophone secondary school students declined from 69% in 1976 to 47% in 1984 (Desranleau, 1984). In Vancouver, drinking among students in grades 8 through 12 declined from 78% in 1978 to 62% in 1982 (Hollander and Davis, 1983). However, drinking among New Brunswick students in grades 7 through 12 has not shown any short-term declines, with annual prevalence, varying between 70% in 1986 and 71% in 1989 (Campbell 1989).

Although current drinking has declined, trends in frequency of drinking among Ontario student drinkers has not shown significant changes between 1981 and 1989 (Smart and Adlaf, 1989). Among drinkers, the percentage drinking weekly has remained stable (20% in 1981, 21% in 1983, 21% in 1985, 18% in 1987 and 19% in 1989). More disconcerting are increases among Ontario student drinkers in drinking five or more drinks on a single occasion during the four weeks prior to the survey – from 29% in 1981 to 36% in 1989. Moreover, those reporting consuming five or more drinks frequently (defined by five or more times during the prior four weeks) show steady increases (3.2% in 1981, 4.2% in 1983, 4.0% in 1985, 4.6% in 1987, and 5.2% in 1989).

ALCOHOL-RELATED PROBLEMS

Problems With One's Own Alcohol Use

All young drinkers, 15 to 24 years of age, were asked whether there was ever a time that they felt their alcohol use had had a harmful effect on their physical health, friendships, social life, outlook on life, happiness, home life, studies or employment, and financial position (Q36A to Q36B – Appendix A).

One out of every four current drinkers (23%) aged 15 to 24 reports experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey (Table 7). Problems with physical health represent the most common consequence of alcohol use (11%), followed by problems with friends or social life (9%), financial position (9%), happiness or outlook (6%), work or studies (5%), and home life (5%).

Similar percentages of 20- to 24-year-olds and 15- to 19-year-olds (23% and 24% respectively) report that they experienced an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey. Age differences are generally small. Those aged 20 to 24 (12%) are slightly more likely to experience health problems as a result of their drinking than 15- to 19-year-olds (9%). For all other types of problems, the difference between age groups is less than one percentage point (Table 7).

Regardless of age, male youth (28%) are more likely than female youth (18%) to report experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey (Table 7). This difference exists for six of the seven problem categories. Males and females do not differ regarding the effect on their happiness or outlook on life. The high incidence of alcohol-related problems among young male drinkers is consistent with the fact that they consume significantly more alcohol than their female counterparts (see section above).

One in ten young drinkers report experiencing two or more alcohol problems during the 12 months prior to the survey, while one in twenty report three or more problems (Table 8). Again, sex differences are not exceedingly large. For example, 6% of male drinkers report three or more problems compared with 4% of female drinkers. However, male drinkers aged 15 to 19 are more likely than their female counterpart to report three or more alcohol-related problems (7% versus 1%, respectively). Age differences are also not large. About 5% of 15- to 19-year-olds and 6% of 20- to 24-year-olds report experiencing three or more problems during the 12 months prior to the survey.

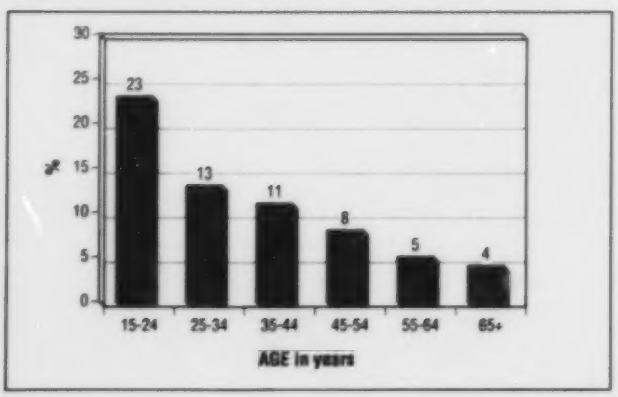
The results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey strongly suggest that young drinkers are much more likely to have recently experienced an alcohol-related problem than their older counterparts (Figure 13). For example, 23% of those between 15 and 24 years of age report experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, compared to only 4% of those 65 years of age and older.

The negative relationship between age and alcohol-related problems may be a consequence of the "binge" drinking often associated with Canadian youth (see section above). Indeed, young drinkers who do not engage in heavy drinking episodes are far less vulnerable than their counterparts who do (Figure 14). For example, only 8% of the young drinkers who did not consume five or more drinks on a single occasion report experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey, compared to almost half (48%) of those who consumed five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions.

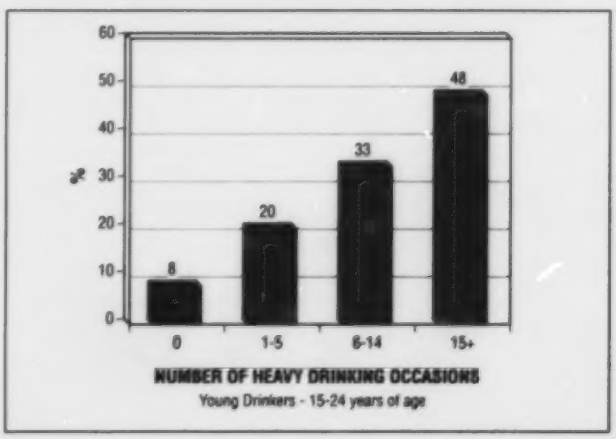
The Ontario Student Drug Use Survey (Smart and Adlaf 1989) suggests that, despite a decline in the prevalence of drinking, alcohol problems have remained stable between 1981 and 1989. For example, the percentage of students reporting being warned or arrested by police because of their drinking varied between 5.1% and 6.0%. Similarly, the percentage reporting a desire to drink less varied between 4.8% and 6.1%.

Prior research has examined the nature of alcohol use and problems between adolescents and young adults. Generally, longitudinal studies, which follow up the same person over several years, show that alcohol use and problems between adolescence and

■ **Fig. 13: Percentage of Drinkers who Experienced an Alcohol-Related Problem in the Year Preceding the Survey, by Age, Canada 1989.**



■ **Fig. 14: Percentage of Young Drinkers who had an Alcohol Problem in the Year Preceding the Survey, by Number of Heavy Drinking Occasions, Canada 1989.**



later adulthood are transient in nature (Donovan et al. 1983; Fillmore and Midanik 1984; Ghodsian and Power 1987; Plant et al. 1985; Temple and Fillmore 1985). One detailed analysis of adolescent drinking problems suggested two aspects to drinking problems (White 1987). The first aspect centred on intensity of drinking, including such things as frequency and quantity of drinking and intoxication. The second centred on related consequences, including interpersonal, social and symptomatic consequences. This research found that problem drinking remained stable between 15 and 21 years, except among males aged 15 to 18. For this group, although consumption remained stable, adverse consequences increased.

Drinking and Driving

About one in five (21%) drivers aged 15 to 19 and one-third (30%) of drivers aged 20 to 24 reports having driven within an hour of consuming two or more alcoholic beverages (Q34 – Appendix A; Table 9). Regardless of age, male drivers are more likely than female drivers to report drinking and driving (26% vs. 14% among 15- to 19-year-olds and 38% vs. 21% among 20- to 24-year-olds).

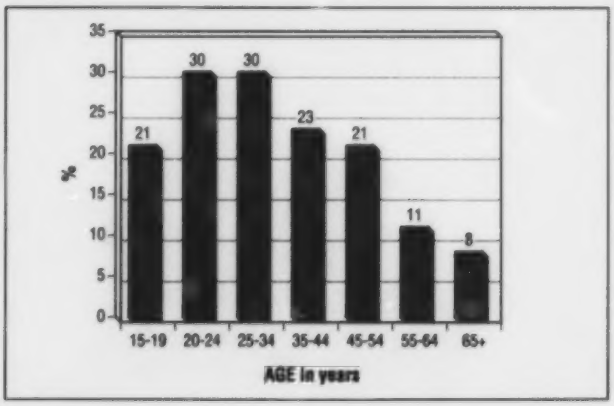
In general, younger Canadians are more likely to drink and drive than older Canadians (Figure 15). Drinking and driving is most common among those between the ages of 20 and 34 (30%). By contrast, only 8% of current drivers aged 65 and over report driving within an hour of consuming two or more alcoholic beverages.

Drivers between 20 and 24 years of age (30%) are significantly more likely to drink and drive than youth who are still in their teens (21%). Males between 20 and 24 (38%) are second only to males between 25 and 34 (43%) in terms of the prevalence of drinking and driving. Among females, 20- to 24 year-olds have the highest drinking and driving rate at 21% (Table 9).

It is important to note that 15-year-olds are not of legal driving age. Thus, the drinking and driving rates in the youngest age category may be higher if 15-year-olds were omitted from the sample.

Research from the Addiction Research Foundation shows that drinking and driving among Ontario students who drive has declined dramatically during the past decade. The percentage of driving students who reported driving within one hour of drinking two or more drinks at least once during the 12 months prior to the survey declined by 31 percentage points between 1977 and 1989. Rates of drinking and driving were as follows: 58% in 1977, 53% in 1979, 41% in 1981, 47% in 1983, 38% in 1985, 28% in 1987 and 27% in 1989.

■ **Fig. 15: Percentage of Drivers who Drove a Motor Vehicle after Consuming 2 or More Drinks in the Previous Hour, Canada 1989.**



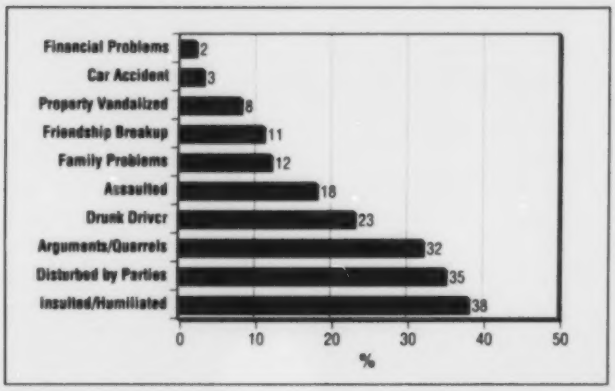
Problems Caused by Other People's Alcohol Use

In addition to discussing problems that resulted from their own alcohol use, all respondents (including non-drinkers) reported on the problems they had experienced as a result of other people's drinking behaviour (Q56A to Q56J -Appendix A).

Sixty-nine percent of young Canadians, 15 to 24 years of age, report experiencing at least once one of the 10 problems caused by other people's use of alcohol. No large age or gender differences are apparent. Among 15- to 24-year-olds, males and females are equally likely (61%) to report having experienced at least one problem. About 67% of 15- to 19-year-olds and 71% of 20- to 24-year-olds report one or more problems. Sex differences within each of these age groups are also not large.

Almost 40% of young Canadians, 15 to 24 years of age, report that in the year preceding the survey they had been insulted or humiliated by someone who had been drinking (Table 10; Figure 16). Approximately 35% of Canadian youth report they were disturbed by loud parties in the previous year and 32% report that they had had an argument or quarrel as the result of someone else's alcohol consumption.

■ **Fig. 16: Percentage of Young Canadians who experienced Various Problems with Other People's Drinking, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



A sizeable percentage of Canadian youth (23%) report that, within the year preceding the survey, they had been a passenger in a motor vehicle with a driver who was intoxicated. In fact, almost 3% (or 117,000 people) report they were in a car accident because of someone else's drinking.

Almost one in five Canadian youth (18%) report that, within the year preceding the survey, they were pushed, hit or physically assaulted by someone who had been drinking. Twelve percent of young people report that they had a family problem due to someone else's drinking and 11% report that they had to break off a friendship for this reason. An additional 8% report that their property had been vandalized by someone who had been drinking. Finally, 2% of Canadian youth report that, within the year preceding the survey, they experienced financial difficulties as the result of someone else's alcohol consumption.

In general, differences between 15- to 19-year-olds and 20- to 24-year-olds are small (Table 10). Those in the older age group are only slightly more likely to report being insulted or humiliated (41% vs. 34%), being disturbed by loud parties (39% vs. 32%), being a passenger with a drunk driver (25% vs. 21%), and having family problems (13% vs. 10%).

There are some gender differences in the experience of alcohol-related problems caused by other people's drinking (Table 10). Female youth are more likely than male youth to report being insulted or humiliated (40% vs. 36%), having arguments or quarrels (35% vs. 30%), having family problems (17% vs. 7%), having property vandalized (9% vs. 6%) and being disturbed by loud parties (38% vs. 33%). On the other hand, males are more likely to report being a passenger in a car with a drunk driver (27% vs. 19%), or being pushed, hit or assaulted (21% vs. 14%).

It is important to note that, in some cases, gender differences are much more apparent among 15- to 19-year-olds than 20- to 24-year-olds (Table 10). For example, 37% of 15- to 19-year-old females report having an argument as the result of someone else's drinking, compared to 26% of same aged males – a difference of 11 percentage points. By contrast, this difference is less than one percentage point among 20- to 24-year-olds (33%). However, in other cases, gender differences become larger with age. For example, the same percentage of males and females in the youngest age category report being a passenger in a car with a drunk driver. By contrast, there is a 16 percentage point difference between males and females in the 20- to 24-year-old category (33% vs. 17%).

Although gender and age differences are not large for experiencing at least one problem due to other's drinking, differences do occur for those experiencing more problems (Table 11). Those aged 20 to 24 are more likely to report three or more problems than are those aged 15 to 19 (33% vs. 28%). Among 20- to 24-year-olds, males are more likely than females (36% vs. 30%) to report three or more problems, whereas among 15- to 19-year-olds, females are more likely to report several problems (32% vs. 24%).

Overall, the data suggest the likelihood of experiencing problems with other people's drinking decreases with age (Table 12). For example, 38% of Canadian youth report that, within the previous year, they were insulted or humiliated by someone who had been drinking, compared to only 5% of those 65 years of age or older. Similarly, 18% of youth report being

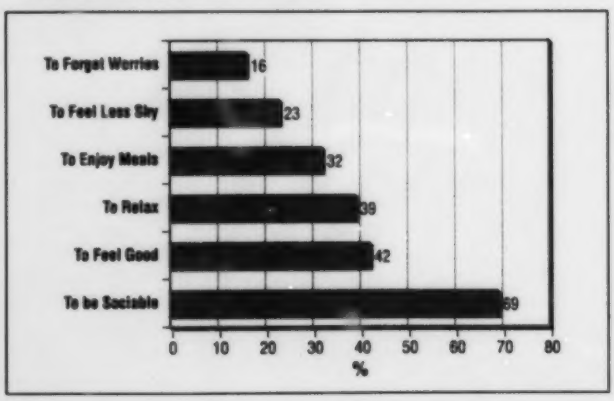
pushed, hit or assaulted by someone who had been drinking, compared to approximately 7% for those 45 or older. Clearly, in terms of both problems with their own use and problems with other people's drinking, Canadian youth are at high risk and thus deserve special consideration. Indeed, a number of future research issues are worthwhile exploring within this context. Youth's greater likelihood of experiencing problems may be due to friendship patterns; that is, they associate more with youths who drink more than other age groups. Second, future research also needs to more closely explore the characteristics of offenders and their victims. As well, more research is needed to examine the relationship between other people's drinking and the respondent's drinking.

REASONS FOR DRINKING

Current drinkers were asked to indicate their reasons for consuming alcoholic beverages in the 12 months preceding the survey. Respondents were allowed to select from one or more of the following reasons: to be sociable; to add to the enjoyment of meals; to feel good; to relax; to forget worries; and to feel less inhibited or shy (see question 18 in Appendix A).

Drinking to be sociable was the most common reason given by young Canadians, 15 to 24 years of age (Figure 17). Seven of ten current drinkers (69%) in this age category report they consumed alcohol for this reason in the year preceding the survey. Drinking to feel good (42%) was the second most common reason, followed by drinking to relax (39%), drinking to add to the enjoyment of meals (32%), drinking to feel less inhibited or shy (23%), and drinking to forget worries (16%).

■ **Fig. 17: Reasons for Drinking among Canadian Youth, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



Male youth are more likely than female youth to report five of the six reasons for drinking provided by the survey (Table 13). In particular, a higher percentage of males (44%) than females (35%) report drinking alcohol to relax. However, females (71%) are more likely than males (68%) to indicate that they drink to be sociable. This is especially true in the youngest cohort (15 and 16-year-olds), where two-thirds of females (66%) report drinking for social reasons, compared to less than half of males (47%).

Drinking to be sociable and to relax increases with age (Table 13). For example, 56% of 15- to 16-year-olds report drinking to be sociable compared to 74% of 20- to 24-year-olds – an increase of 18 percentage points. Similarly, 33% of 15- to 16-year-olds report drinking to relax compared to 41% of 20- to 24-year-olds – an increase of eight percentage points. Among current drinking males, drinking for social reasons increases by 24 percentage points from the youngest to oldest age categories (47% among those 15 to 16 vs. 71% among those 20 to 24).

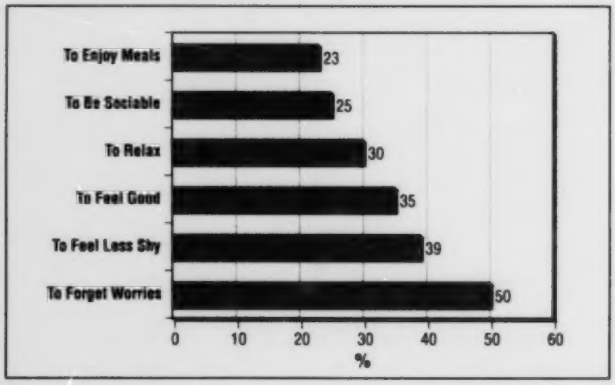
Drinking to forget worries and to feel less inhibited or shy decreases with age (Table 13). For example, 24% of 15- to 16-year-olds report drinking to forget worries compared to 13% of 20- to 24-year-olds. Similarly, 29% of 15- to 16-year-olds report drinking to feel less inhibited or shy compared to 19% of 20- to 24-year-olds. Among current female drinkers, drinking to feel less inhibited or shy decreases by 17 percentage points from the youngest to oldest age categories.

Aside from drinking to be sociable, young current drinkers consume alcohol primarily for "personal" reasons, whether it be an attempt to achieve a positive mood (i.e., to feel good, to relax) or to alleviate a negative one (i.e., to feel less inhibited or shy, to forget worries). Consistent with previous research, the results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that drinking for personal reasons is associated with heavy drinking behaviour (Johnston and O'Malley 1986). By contrast, drinking for social reasons is related to low or moderate consumption levels (Christopherson et al. 1984). For example, youth who report drinking to forget worries consume an average of 6.5 drinks per week, compared with 3.8

drinks per week by youth who report drinking for social reasons (Table 14). Similarly, over one-third (35%) of those who drink to forget worries report consuming five or more drinks on 15 or more occasions in the previous year, compared to one-fifth (21%) of those who report drinking for social reasons.

The findings also suggest that "personal" reasons for drinking are positively related to drinking consequences (Figure 18). For example, persons who report that they drink in order to forget (50%) are twice as likely as those who drink to be sociable (25%) to report experiencing an alcohol-related problem in the year preceding the survey. However, it should also be noted that a large proportion of those who report drinking for personal reasons also report that they drink to be sociable. Thus, we can assume that estimates of problem drinking among those who drink to be sociable would be even lower if we excluded those who also drink for personal reasons.

■ **Fig. 18: Percentage of Young Drinkers who had an Alcohol-Related Problem in the Year Preceding the Survey, by Reasons for Drinking, Canada 1989.**



THE DRINKING COMPANIONS OF YOUNG CANADIANS

All Canadians who reported that they had consumed alcohol in the year preceding the survey were asked how often they drank, either by themselves or with their friends, spouses, relatives and co-workers (see question 27 in Appendix A). The findings clearly indicate that drinking among Canadian youth is a social activity (Table 15).

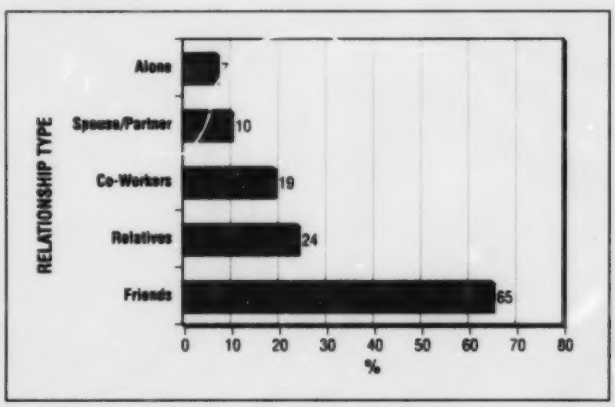
Young drinkers, 15 to 24 years of age, rarely drink alone. Eighty-four percent of current drinkers report that they never drink alone or when others are not drinking. By contrast, only 7% report drinking alone a few times a month or more often. These findings from the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey are consistent with previous research (Kandel, 1980).

The majority of youth are introduced to alcohol in the home in the presence of adults. In particular, the consumption of alcohol at home on special occasions is the primary drinking context for young teenagers (Chamberlayne, Kierans and Fletcher 1987; Nutter 1984). However, with increasing age, there is a clear shift among youth from drinking in the home under the control of parents, to drinking at parties under the influence of peers.

Friends

Friends are by far the most common drinking partners of young Canadians (Figure 19). Two-thirds (65%) of young current drinkers consume alcohol with their friends once per month or more often. Only 5% of young drinkers report never consuming alcohol with friends. Male youth drink with their friends more frequently than female youth (Table 15). For example, over one-third (38%) of male youth consume alcohol with their friends once per week or more, compared to 19% of female youth.

■ **Fig. 19: Percentage of Young Canadians who Drink Once a Month or More with Various Network Members, Canada 1989.**



Older youth also drink more often with their friends than younger youth. Thirty-four percent of 20- to 24-year-olds drink with their friends once per week or more often, compared to 28% of 17- to 19-year-olds and 13% of 15- to 16-year-olds.

In general, young drinkers consume alcohol more often with their friends than older drinkers. For example, 29% of current drinkers aged 15 to 24 drink once per week or more with their friends (Table 15), compared to about 16% of those aged 35 to 54 and 10% of those 55 and over (Eliany et al., 1990).

Family Members

Among Canadian youth, family members (inside and outside the household) are the second most common drinking partners. One-quarter of young drinkers (24%) report that they consume alcohol with their relatives at least once per month. An additional 47% drink with family members a few times per year. However, a significant minority (29%) report that they never drink with family members.

Among youth, the frequency of drinking with relatives appears to increase with age (Table 15). Approximately three out of every ten 20- to 24-year-olds (28%) report that they drink with their relatives once per month or more, compared to 20% of 17- to 19-year-olds and 17%* of 15- to 16-year-olds. However, it is important to note that those in the two older categories are more likely than those in the youngest category to report that they never drink with their relatives.

In general, male youth are more likely than female youth to drink frequently with their relatives (Table 15). Thirty percent of male drinkers, 15 to 24 years of age, report that they drink with their relatives at least once per month, compared to 18% of female drinkers of the same age. However, female youth (28%) are just as likely as male youth (30%) to report that they never drink with their relatives.

Co-workers

Among Canadian youth, drinking with co-workers is much less common than drinking with either friends or relatives (Table 15). Six out of every ten drinkers (60%), 15 to 24 years of age, report that they "never" drink with their co-workers. An additional 21% do so less than once per month. Only 19% of young drinkers report that they drink with co-workers once per month or more often.

The low incidence of drinking with co-workers probably stems from the fact that a large proportion of young people either do not have a job or are employed part-time. Indeed, drinking with co-workers is more common among older youth who are more likely to be in the permanent workforce (Table 15).

Male youth (25%) are twice as likely as female youth (13%) to report drinking with co-workers once per month or more. Conversely, females (68%) are more likely than males (53%) to report that they "never" drink with their co-workers.

Spouse or Partner

The majority of young Canadian drinkers (84%) report that they "never" drink with their spouse or partner. Only 10% report that they do so once per month or more (Table 15). The low incidence of drinking with one's spouse is not surprising considering the fact that most young people, 15 to 24 years of age, are not married or living with a steady partner. Drinking with one's spouse or partner is only significant among older youth, who are more likely to have married or established a permanent relationship. Almost all 15- to 16-year-olds (99%) and 17- to 19-year-olds (96%) report that they never drink with their spouse, compared to 74% of 20- to 24-year-olds.

Drinking Alone

The majority of young drinkers (84%), 15 to 24 years of age, report that they never drink alone or when others are not drinking. An additional 8% report that they do so, on average, less than once per month. Only 7% of young drinkers report that they drink alone once per month or more often (Table 15).

Young drinkers engage in solitary drinking less frequently than their older counterparts. For example, 7% of 15- to 24-year-olds engage in solitary drinking once a month or more, compared to 11% of 35- to 54-year-olds and 13% of those 55 years of age and older (Table 15).

Among youth, male current drinkers are more likely than female current drinkers to drink alone or when others are not drinking. For example, 12% of males, 15 to 24 years of age, report drinking alone

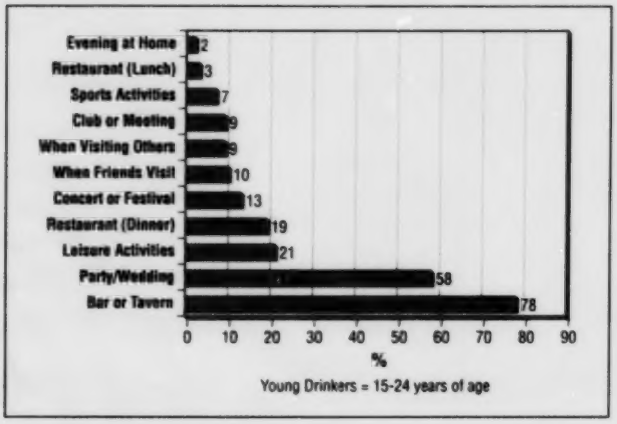
once a month or more, compared to a negligible percentage of female current drinkers (Table 15).

PLACES YOUNG CANADIANS DRINK

All current drinkers were asked how often they had participated in 11 different activities. They were also asked how often they drank when engaging in each activity and how many drinks they usually consumed (see questions 25 and 26 in Appendix A).

Regardless of age or gender, Canadian youth are most likely to drink when they: go to a bar or tavern; attend a party, social gathering or wedding; engage in outdoor leisure activities; or go to a restaurant for dinner (Figure 20).

■ Fig. 20: Percentage of Young Drinkers who Consume Alcohol more than Half the Time when Engaged in Different Activities, Canada 1989.



Over three-quarters (78%) of young drinkers report that when they go to a bar or tavern they drink more than half the time. An additional 18% drink half the time or less. Only 4%* report that they never consume alcohol on such occasions (Table 16).

Fifty-eight percent of young drinkers usually drink (i.e., drink on more than half of the occasions) when they attend a party, social gathering or wedding. An additional 33% drink on half of these occasions or less. Only 9% report that they never drink when participating in such activities (Table 16).

Twenty-one percent of current drinkers usually drink when involved in outdoor leisure activities such as camping or boating (Table 16). An additional 44% drink half the time or less when engaged in such activities. However, a sizeable minority (35%) of current drinkers report that they never drink while engaged in such activities. Finally, 19% of young drinkers consume alcohol more than half the time when having dinner at a restaurant, while about 41% drink on half of these occasions or less. An additional 40% report that they never consume alcohol while having dinner at restaurants.

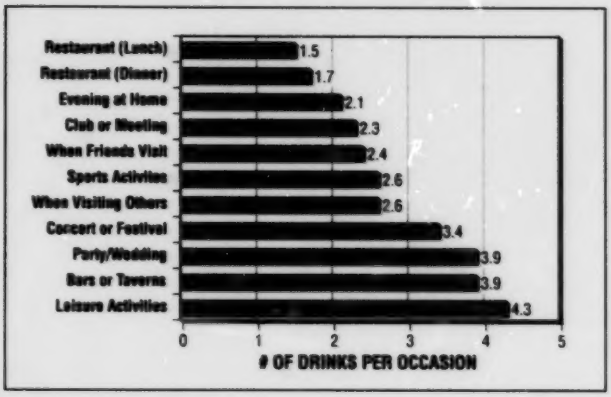
Young drinkers are least likely to drink when they: eat lunch at a restaurant; engage in sporting activities; spend a quiet evening at home; go to a club or meeting; or go to a concert or festival (Figure 20; Table 16).

Eighty-four percent of young drinkers, 15-24 years of age, report that they never drink when having lunch at a restaurant, while only 3%* drink on more than half of these occasions. Similarly, the majority of young drinkers report that they never drink when they participate in sports activities (74%), spend a quiet evening at home (70%), go to a club or meeting (68%), or attend a concert, game or festival (62%).

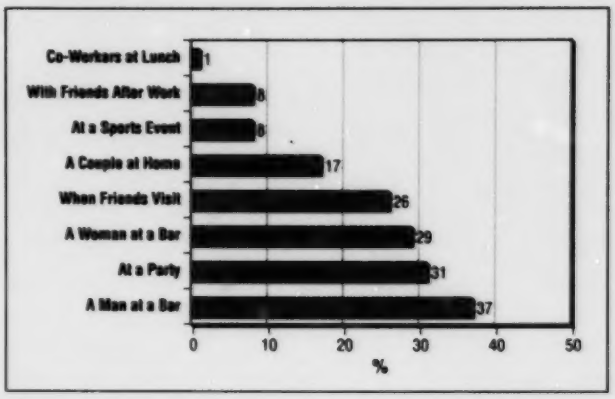
Young drinkers, 15 to 24 years of age, tend to consume the greatest amount of alcohol when they participate in leisure activities such as being at a cottage, camping or boating (an average of 4.3 drinks per occasion), go to bars or taverns (3.9 drinks), attend parties, social gatherings or weddings (3.9 drinks), and attend concerts, games or festivals (3.4 drinks – see Figure 21). Alcohol consumption is lowest when having lunch or dinner at restaurants (1.5 and 1.7 drinks respectively) and spending quiet evenings at home (2.1 drinks). In each of the 11 settings, young male drinkers consume a higher number of drinks per occasion than their female counterparts (Table 16).

The findings from the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey are consistent with those found in other literature. Other research has also found that alcohol consumption among youth is most likely to occur in a social context (Brown, Stetson and Beatty 1989; Harford and Speigler 1982; Harford and Grant 1987; Single 1988). In particular, heavy drinking is associated with peer contexts that endorse informal group participation; that is, gathering for enjoyment rather than in organized groups endeavouring to accomplish specific objectives (Crano and Selnow 1986). This

■ **Fig. 21: Average Number of Drinks per Occasion, by Type of Activity, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



■ **Fig. 22: Percentage of Young Canadians who Feel it is Acceptable to Drink Enough to Feel the Effects, by Setting, Canada 1989.**



research supports the findings in this survey that the majority current drinkers (67%) abstain from drinking at clubs or meetings or when participating in sports activities.

ATTITUDES TOWARDS DRINKING IN SPECIFIC SITUATIONS

All respondents – non-drinkers, former drinkers and current drinkers – were asked about their attitudes or beliefs concerning alcohol consumption in eight different situations (see question 51 in Appendix A). Specifically, they were instructed to indicate for each situation whether they felt that there should be no drinking or if a person should feel free to consume one or two drinks, enough to feel the effects, or enough to get drunk sometimes. In this report, the last two categories are combined into one and renamed "enough to feel the effects."

The data suggest that Canadian youth, 15 to 24 years of age, are most likely to condone heavy drinking in bars or at parties (Figure 22; Table 17). Thirty-seven percent of young Canadians feel it is acceptable for a man at a bar with his friends to drink enough to feel the effects, while another 51% feel that one or two drinks is permissible. Only 5% feel that no drinking should take place in this setting. The data also suggest that young people are not quite as likely to accept female drinking in bars or taverns as they are male drinking. Twenty-nine percent think that it is acceptable for a woman in this setting to drink enough to feel the effects, 58% feel that it one or two drinks is permissible, and 7% think that women should not drink at all (Table 17).

The majority of Canadian youth believe that at least some alcohol consumption is acceptable at parties (Table 17). Only 8% feel that no drinking should take place during such occasions. Over half (55%) think one or two drinks are permissible, and 31% feel it is all right to drink enough to feel the effects. Respondents have somewhat similar attitudes toward drinking with friends at home: about 19% feel no drinking should take place, approximately 51% approve of one or two drinks, and 26% feel that it is all right to drink enough to feel the effects.

Canadian youth, 15 to 24 years of age, are slightly more restrictive about drinking when a couple is having dinner by themselves at home. About 14% feel no drinking should take place under these circumstances, 62% approve of one or two drinks, and 17% feel that it is all right to drink enough to feel the effects (Table 17).

Approximately two-thirds (62%) of young Canadians feel that it is acceptable for people to drink with friends after work. However, almost half (49%) feel that alcohol consumption in this situation should be restricted to one or two drinks. Only 7% feel that it is appropriate to drink enough to feel the effects in this context (Table 17).

One out of every two young people (48%) feels that no drinking should take place when people get together for sports events or recreational activities. An additional two-fifths (39%) maintain that alcohol consumption in this setting should be restricted to one or two drinks. Only 8% report that drinking enough to feel the effects is acceptable in this context.

Most young Canadians (56%) feel people should not consume alcohol when they are at lunch with co-workers. Although 38% feel that one or two drinks in this context is acceptable, only 1%* say people should feel free to drink enough to feel the effects.

In general, male youth tend to hold less restrictive attitudes about drinking than female youth (Table 17). For example, 37% of males report that it is acceptable to drink enough to feel the effects at a party, compared to 25% of females. There is even evidence to suggest that male youth are more tolerant of female drinking than females themselves. While one-third (33%) of male youth feel it is acceptable for a female to drink enough to feel the effects when she is at a bar with friends, only one-quarter (24%) of female youth feel the same way.

The findings also suggest that, among youth, normative support for drinking and getting drunk increase with age (Table 17). For example, 24% of 15- to 16-year-olds report that drinking enough to feel intoxicated is acceptable at parties, compared to 35% of 20- to 24-year-olds – an increase of 11 percentage points. Similarly, 29% of 15- to 16-year-olds report that drinking enough to feel the effects is acceptable for men in a bar with friends, compared to 39% of 20- to 24-year-olds – an increase of 10 percentage points.

Clearly, different youth have different drinking practices, different settings, and different reasons for drinking. Thus, the population of drinkers may be represented by different clusters or groups of youth and young adults. Pandina (1986), for example, views the at-risk population as three concentric rings or overlapping layers. The largest ring consists of regular drinkers whose intensity of alcohol consumption varies considerably. This may reflect the experimental drinking practices of youth. The middle level is composed of about 30% to 40% of the entire population of regular drinkers. Youth in this subgroup drink with greater frequency, are more likely to experience frequent intoxication and have friends with similar drinking practices. The innermost level is represented by the heaviest drinkers (an estimated 5% to 10% of drinkers). This group of youth are intoxicated frequently and are more than likely weekend drinkers. This model suggests that the likelihood of experiencing negative consequences increases as one moves toward the inner ring.

PART TWO: CIGARETTE SMOKING BY CANADIAN YOUTH

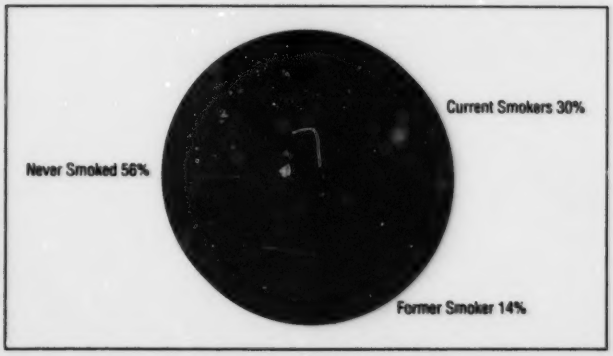
The National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey (1989) questioned Canadian youth, 15 to 24 years of age, about their use of tobacco. In this report, the term ***current smoker*** is used to describe those respondents who answered "yes" to the question "At the present time do you smoke cigarettes"? (Q10 – Appendix A). The term ***former smoker*** is used to identify individuals who have smoked cigarettes at some time in their life, but were not using tobacco at the time of the survey (Q7 – Appendix A). ***Level of smoking*** refers to the usual number of cigarettes smoked per day by current users (Q11 – Appendix A).

The Prevalence of Smoking

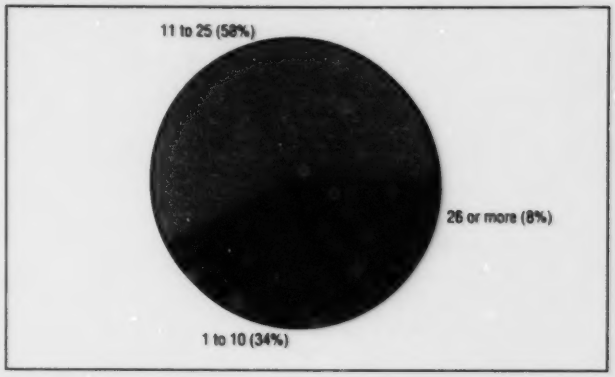
One out of every three young Canadians (30%) – or approximately 1.2 million individuals aged 15 to 24 – are current smokers (Table 18). An additional 14% are former smokers – having used tobacco at some time in the past but not at the time of the survey. Thus, 44% of young Canadians have had at least some experience with tobacco. On the other hand, over half (56%) of young Canadians report that they have never smoked cigarettes on a regular basis (Figure 23).

Almost all young smokers (99%) are regular (i.e., daily) smokers. The majority (58%) consume between 11 and 25 cigarettes per day (Table 19; Figure 24). Only 4%* can be classified as "heavy smokers" – consuming an average of 26 cigarettes per day or more. One in three young smokers (35%) is a "light smoker" – consuming an average of 10 cigarettes a day or less.

■ **Fig. 23: The Smoking Status of Young Canadians, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



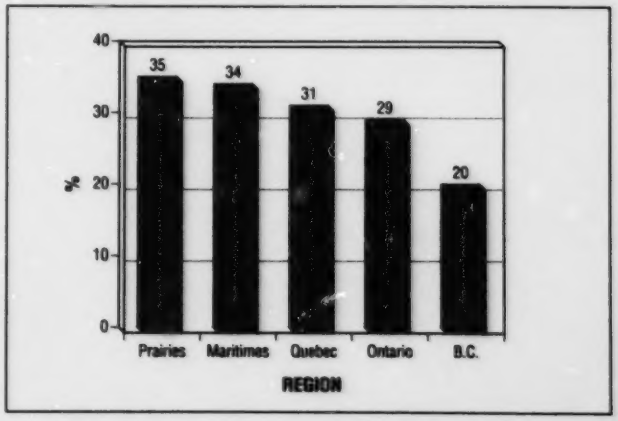
■ **Fig. 24: Average Number of Cigarettes Smoked per Day, Current Smokers, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



Region

The data suggest regional differences exist in the prevalence of smoking among Canadian youth (Figure 25; Table 20). The Prairie provinces have the highest percentage of current smokers, 15 to 24 years of age (35%), followed by the Atlantic provinces (34%), Quebec (31%), Ontario (29%), and British Columbia (20%). On the other hand, British Columbia has the highest percentage of youth who report never having smoked cigarettes (62%), followed by Ontario (60%), Quebec (53%), the Atlantic provinces (52%) and the Prairie region (51%).

■ **Fig. 25: Percentage of Current Smokers, by Region, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



Regional differences are also apparent for the prevalence of heavy smoking – that is, smoking 26 or more cigarettes daily (Table 21). However, regional differences in heavy smoking bear little resemblance to regional differences in the prevalence of current smoking. Among 15- to 24-year-olds, heavy smoking is highest in Quebec (6.3%) and British Columbia (6.0%), followed by the Atlantic provinces (5.4%), Ontario (3.0%) and the Prairie provinces (1.9%). Thus, although British Columbia had the lowest percentage of current smokers (20%), it had one of the highest rates of heavy smoking (6.0%). Similarly, the Prairie provinces, which had the highest rate of current smoking (35%), had the lowest rate of heavy smoking (1.9%).

Age

Among young Canadians, smoking tends to increase with age (Table 18). Only 13% of 15- to 16-year-olds are current smokers, compared to 28% of 17- to 19-year-olds and 37% of 20- to 24-year-olds. By contrast, three-quarters (76%) of 15-16 year-olds report that they have never smoked cigarettes, compared to 59% of 17-19 year-olds and 48% of 20- to 24-year-olds. Interestingly, the percentage of former smokers remains relatively constant across age groups. For example, 11%* of 15- to 16-year-olds are former smokers, compared to 13% of 17- to 19-year-olds and 15% of 20- to 24-year-olds.

Among young smokers, amount smoked increases steadily with age (Table 19). Thirty-seven percent of 15- to 16-year-old smokers report consuming an average of 11 or more cigarettes per day, compared to 55% of 17- to 19-year-olds and 72% of those between 20 and 24 years of age.

Gender

A similar proportion of male (30%) and female youth (31%) are current smokers (Table 18). Males (58%) are slightly more likely than females (54%) to report never smoking cigarettes.

Regardless of age, male youth tend to smoke more heavily than female youth (Table 19). Overall, 71% of young male smokers report consuming 11 or more cigarettes per day, compared to 58% of female smokers.

Trends in Smoking Behaviour

Previous research suggests the prevalence of cigarette smoking by Canadian youth declined markedly between 1970 and 1985. During this period, the proportion of current smokers declined from 31% to 18% among 15- to 19-year-olds and from 48% to 32% among 20- to 24-year-olds (Rootman et al. 1988). Findings from the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey suggest, however, that this downward trend may have slowed or perhaps even reversed in recent years. Between 1985 and 1989 the percentage of current smokers increased slightly from 18% to 23% among 15- to 19-year-olds and from 32% to 37% among 20- to 24-year-olds.

Although the prevalence of smoking among youth remained stable or even increased slightly during the 1980s, the data suggest that those who are currently using tobacco are smoking less. For example, in 1985, 68% of 15- to 19-year-old smokers reported that they consumed 11 or more cigarettes per day, compared to 56% in 1989 – a decrease of 12 percentage points. Similarly, in 1985, 80% of 20- to 24-year-old smokers reported that they consumed 11 or more cigarettes per day, compared to 70% in 1989 – a decrease of 10 percentage points.

Surveys of Ontario students aged 12 to 19 show large declines in current smoking beginning after 1979. The trend in smoking is as follows: 30% in 1977, 35% in 1979, 30% in 1981, 29% in 1983, 25% in 1985, 24% in 1987, and 23% in 1989 (Smart and Adlaf 1989).

PART THREE: OTHER DRUGS

The National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey (1989) questioned Canadian youth about their use of various illicit and licit drugs. In this analysis, the illicit drugs discussed include cannabis (marijuana and hashish), cocaine, LSD, speed and heroin. The licit drugs include sleeping pills, tranquillizers, diet pills, anti-depressants and prescription opiates such as codeine, demerol and morphine (see questions 58 and 59 of Appendix A).

While many other categories of drugs exist, this survey included those most likely to have been used by the survey's target population: people 15 years of age and older. The current report however, focuses on young Canadians between the ages of 15 and 24 years.

As the use of these drugs is generally less common than the use of alcohol, percentages are given to one decimal place. Typically, the percentage of Canadian youth using any one drug is small, less than 10%. This implies that differences in percentages should be interpreted with care. Similarly, the small sample of self-reported users and high sampling variability among some categories warrant further caution in interpreting the data.

ILLICIT DRUG USE

Respondents were asked whether or not they had *ever* used marijuana or hashish, cocaine or crack, LSD, speed or heroin (Q59 – Appendix A). Those admitting use at sometime in their life were then asked whether or not they had used the substance during the 12 months preceding the survey.

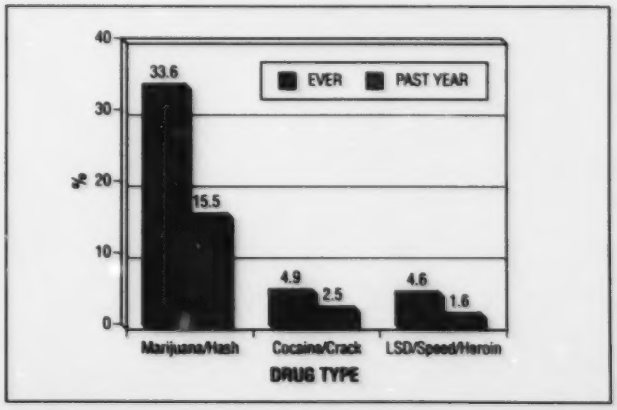
Research suggests that while illicit drug use peaks between late adolescence and young adulthood (Johnston, Bachman and O'Malley 1989; Kandel and Logan 1984; Newcomb and Bentler 1986; Yamaguchi and Kandel 1984a, 1984b), the greatest period of risk for introduction to drugs begins in early adolescence (Kandel and Logan 1984). For example, introduction to marijuana generally begins about age 13, peaks about age 18 and declines between the ages of 19 and 20 years. The greatest risk for introduction to illicit drugs, other than cocaine, is reduced considerably by age 21 (Kandel and Logan 1984). The risk for introduction to cocaine use, on the other hand, continues to rise beyond age 24.

Approximately one-third of Canadian youth (34.0%) report that they have used an illicit substance at some point in their life (Table 22). Lifetime use is more prevalent among males (37.1%) than females (30.8%). The data suggest that, among young people, use of illicit drugs increases with age. For example, 43.8% of those aged 20 to 24 report using an illicit substance at some time in their life, compared to 28.3% of 17- to 19-year-olds and 14.5% of 15 to 16 year-olds (Table 22).

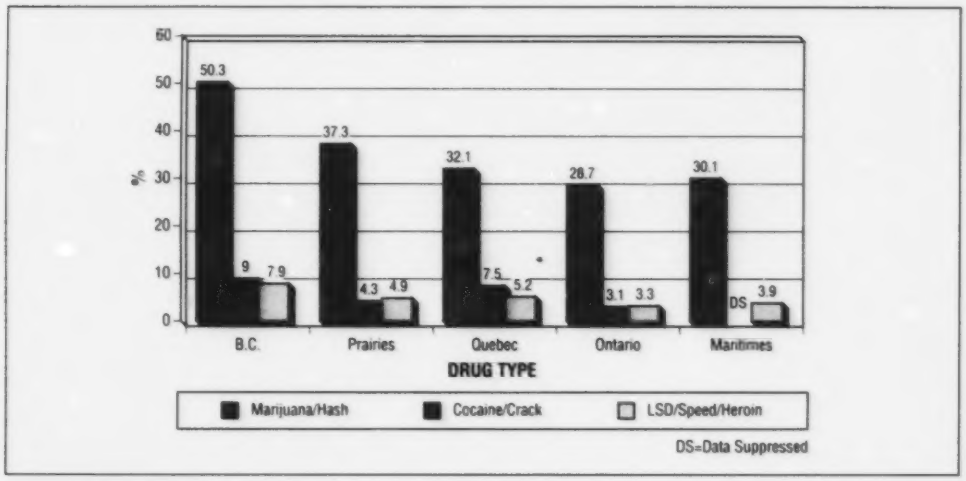
Cannabis (Marijuana and Hashish)

Cannabis is the most commonly used illicit substance among Canadian youth (Figure 26). One-third (33.6%) of young Canadians, 15 to 24 years of age, report that they have used cannabis (marijuana or hashish) at some time in their life. One in six (15.5%) report using cannabis during the year preceding the survey. Almost half (46.2%) of current marijuana users, 15 to 24 years of age, report using the drug less than once per month. An additional 27.4% use cannabis between one and three times a month, and 22.7%* use the drug once a week or more often (Table 24).

■ **Fig. 26: Percentage of Young Canadians, Who Have Used Selected Illicit Drugs, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



■ **Fig. 27: Percentage of Young Canadians, Who Have Ever Used Selected Illicit Drugs, by Region, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



Lifetime use of cannabis by young Canadians differs by region (Table 23; Figure 27). Use is most prevalent in British Columbia where one half (50.3%) of 15 to 24 year-olds have used the drug at some time in their lives. The Prairie provinces have the second highest lifetime prevalence rate (37.3%), followed by Quebec (32.1%), the Atlantic provinces (30.1%) and Ontario (28.7%). Only British Columbia and the Prairie provinces have lifetime prevalence rates above the national average (33.6%).

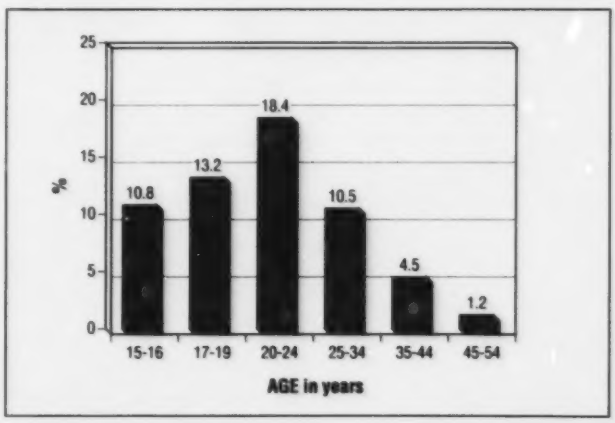
The current use of marijuana shows similar regional differences. Use is highest in British Columbia (27.6%), followed by Quebec (16.9%), the Prairie provinces (13.0), Ontario (12.8%) and the Atlantic provinces (12.8%).

Young people living in British Columbia and the Prairie provinces use cannabis more frequently than their counterparts in other regions of Canada (Table 25). For example, approximately 28.9%* of 15- to 24-year-olds living in British Columbia and 24.3%* of their counterparts in the Prairie provinces report using cannabis once a week or more often. This compares to 21.9%* of 15- to 24-year-olds in Ontario, 20.3%* in Quebec, and 16.2%* in the Atlantic provinces.

In general, the current use of cannabis is more common among younger than older Canadians (Figure 28). For example, 15.5% of those 15 to 24 years of age report using marijuana in the year preceding the survey (Table 23), compared to only 1.2% of those between 45 and 54 (Figure 28). The survey findings show that both lifetime and annual marijuana use increases with age for both males and females (Table 22). Lifetime use increases from 14.5% among 15- to 16-year-olds to 28.0% among 17- to 19-year-olds to 43.1% among 20- to 24-year-olds. Similarly, current use increases from 10.8%* among 15- to 16-year olds to 13.2% among 17- to 19-year-olds and to 18.4% of 20- to 24-year-olds.

Typically, more male youth (36.8%) than female youth (30.3%) have used marijuana (Table 22). However, females (16.1%*) in the youngest age group

■ **Fig. 28: Percentage of Canadians Who Used Marijuana or Hash in the Year Preceding the Survey, Canada 1989.**



(15 to 16 years) are more likely to have used marijuana than males of the same age (13.1%*). The highest rate of use was reported by 20- to 24-year-old males (49.4%), followed by their female counterparts (36.7%). The second highest rate of use was reported by 17- to 19-year-old males (29.1%) closely followed by females in the same age group (26.9%).

Male youth (19.1%) are also more likely than female youth (11.7%) to report using marijuana in the year preceding the survey (Table 22). However, females (11.5%*) in the youngest age group (15 to 16 years) are slightly more likely to be current marijuana users than males of the same age (10.4%). The highest rate of current use was reported by 20 to 24 year-old males (23.7%), followed by males 17 to 19 years of age (16.6%). The third highest rate of current use is found among females 20 to 24 years of age (13.0%). It is interesting to note that both males and females in the youngest age category have higher rates of current usage than females aged 17 to 19 years (9.8%*). Males (24.9%*) are more likely than females (19.0%*) to report using marijuana once per week or more often. Frequent use (i.e., once a week or more) is most common among 20 to 24 year old males (Table 24).

Cocaine or Crack

Only 3.5% of all Canadians, 15 years of age or over, report that they have used cocaine or crack at some time in their lives; and only 1.4% indicate that they used cocaine or crack in the year preceding the survey (Table 26).

There are regional differences in the lifetime and annual prevalence rates of cocaine or crack use by young Canadians (Table 23; Figure 27). Use of the drug is most prevalent in British Columbia, where 9.0*% of 15- to 24-year-olds report using it at some time in their lives. Quebec has the second highest lifetime prevalence rate of cocaine or crack use among 15- to 24-year-olds (7.5%*), followed by the Prairie provinces (4.3%*), Ontario (3.1%*) and a negligible percentage for the Atlantic provinces. Current use of cocaine or crack among Canadian youth is most prevalent in British Columbia (6.3%*), Quebec (4.3%*) and the Prairie provinces (1.9%*). The rates of current use in both Ontario and the Atlantic provinces are too low to be reported here.

The use of cocaine is higher among Canadian youth than it is among the general population. Almost one out of every twenty young Canadians (4.9%), 15 to 24 years of age, report using cocaine or crack at some time in their life. An additional 2.5%* of Canadian youth report using this substance in the year preceding the survey (Table 22).

As with marijuana, lifetime prevalence rates for cocaine or crack use increase with age. Among 20 to 24 year-olds, 7.0% report using cocaine or crack at some time in their lives. This compares to 3.5%* of 17- to 19-year-olds and an insignificant proportion of 15- to 16-year-olds (Table 22).

In general, male youth (5.7%) are slightly more likely than female youth (4.1%*) to have used cocaine or crack at some point in their lives (Table 22). Similarly, a slightly higher percentage of males (3.2%*) than females (1.9%*) report using the drug in the year preceding the survey. Rates of current use are highest among 20- to 24-year-old males (4.0%).

LSD, Speed or Heroin

One out of every twenty-five Canadians (4.1%), 15 years of age or over, report having used LSD, speed or heroin at some time in their life. However, only one out of every two hundred Canadians (0.4%) used at least one of these illicit substances in the year preceding the survey (Table 26). Although one in twenty young Canadians (4.6%), 15 to 24 years of age, indicate that they have used LSD, speed or heroin at some time in their lives, less than one in fifty (1.6%*) are current users (Table 22).

As with marijuana and cocaine, lifetime use of LSD, speed, or heroin is most prevalent in British Columbia (Table 23; Figure 27). Approximately 7.9%* of youth, 15 to 24 years of age, in this province report using at least one of these drugs at some time in their lives, followed by Quebec (5.2%*), the Prairie provinces (4.9%), the Atlantic provinces (3.9%*), and Ontario (3.3%*).

Canadian youth are not as likely to have used LSD, speed, or heroin as are adults in their late twenties to early forties (Table 26). For example, 7.5% of individuals between 25 to 34 years of age report using these drugs at some point in their life, followed by 35- to 44-year-olds (5.9%), 20- to 24-year-olds

(4.7%*) and 15- to 19-year-olds (4.5%*). However, young Canadians 15 to 19 years of age (particularly 17- to 19-year-olds) have the highest rate of current use among all Canadians. For example, 2.1%* of 15- to 19-year-old youth report having used LSD, speed or heroin during the year preceding the survey compared to an insignificant proportion among all other age groups (Table 26).

In general, more male youth (5.5%) than female youth (3.7%*) have used these drugs (Table 22). Among young Canadians aged 15 to 24 years, the highest rate of use of LSD, speed or heroin is reported by 17- to 19-year-old males (6.5%*). The second highest rate is reported by 20- to 24-year-old males (6.0%*). Among female youth, the highest rate was among 17- to 19-year-olds (5.2%*).

The results of the National Alcohol and Other Drug Survey are consistent with previous research, which shows that the use of marijuana and cocaine is much more prevalent among younger than older individuals (Eliany 1989; Adlaf and Smart 1989; Johnston et al. 1989; Smart 1986). Rates of current use are generally low in early adolescence (ages 12 and 13), rise steeply into the late teenage years, peak during the early twenties, and drop off in the late twenties and early thirties (Menard and Huizinga 1989). Over the age of 50, illicit drug use is extremely rare (Kandel and Logan 1984; Kandel 1980).

Many experts believe that one of the main reasons for this pattern is that a direct relationship exists between age and the acquisition of adult roles and responsibilities (Kandel 1980; O'Malley, Bachman and Johnston 1988). In support of this hypothesis, Brown et al. (1974) found that the cessation of marijuana use among college students is not due to changes in attitudes towards illicit drugs but to the constraints imposed by job situations, family responsibilities, and changes in friendship patterns after graduation. Indeed, the results of this and other Canadian and American research indicate that the employed have significantly lower rates of drug use than do students and unemployed persons of the same age. Married individuals are also less likely to use illicit drugs than are single, separated or divorced persons.

Trend surveys of adolescent students have found significant declines in the use of cannabis and other illicit drugs during the past decade (Adlaf and Smart 1991). Declines in cannabis use have been noted in Ontario (Smart and Adlaf 1989), Montreal (Desranleau 1984), Vancouver (Hollander and Davis 1983), and Halifax (Mitic and Neuman 1983).

To date, the most systematic of these surveys is conducted by the Addiction Research Foundation (Smart and Adlaf 1989). In Ontario, the long-term trend in cannabis use shows an increase between 1977 and 1979 (from 25.1% to 31.7%), and has since been declining to a rate of 14.1% in 1989 (a figure comparable to the 12.3% of Canadian youth aged 15 to 19 in the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey). In Ontario, cocaine use among students has remained relatively stable during the past decade and appears to be on a downward trend. Cocaine use peaked in 1979 at 5.1% and has been slowly declining since, to a rate of 2.7% in 1989 (a rate similar to the 1.9% found among Canadian youth in the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey). LSD, speed and heroin are substances with differing rates of use. In 1989, 5.9%, 2.5% and 1.2% of Ontario students reported the use of LSD, speed and heroin during the 12 months prior to the survey. During the decade, the use of heroin and speed has been relatively stable, fluctuating between 1.2% and 2.0%, and between 2.5% and 3.9%, respectively from 1981 to 1989. Use of LSD, on the other hand, has declined from a high of 10.2% in 1981 to 5.9% in 1989.

LICIT DRUG USE

The 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey also asked Canadians about their use of a broad array of prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Respondents were asked to report on any medicines and/or pills they had taken in the 30 days preceding the survey. Of the five classes of licit drugs studied, prescription opiates (including codeine, demerol and morphine) are the most widely used, followed by diet pills or other stimulants, sleeping pills, tranquillizers and anti-depressants (Table 27).

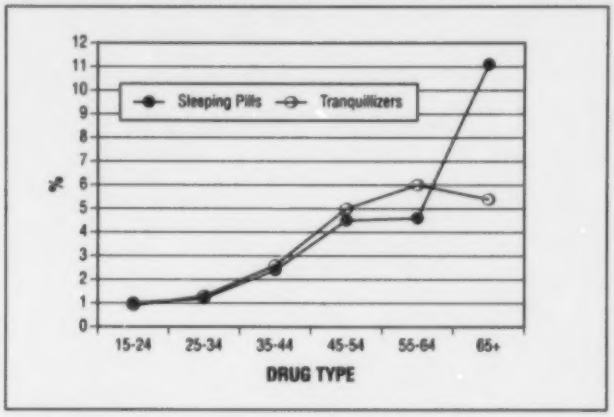
One out of every 20 adult Canadians (5.0%), 15 years of age or over, reports having used a prescription opiate in the 30 days prior to the survey, while 3.6% have used sleeping pills and 3.1% have used tranquillizers. Two percent of the population report using anti-depressants, while 0.9% report that they have used diet pills or stimulants (Table 27).

Unlike illicit drugs, the use of most licit substances (sleeping pills, tranquillizers and anti-depressants) is much more common among older than younger Canadians (Figure 29; Table 27). For example, 11.1% of Canadians 65 years of age and older report using sleeping pills in the month preceding the survey, compared to 1.0%* of those between 15 and 24 years of age. Similarly, 5.4% of those 65 years of age or older report using tranquillizers in the month preceding the survey, compared to less than one percent (0.9%*) of Canadian youth, 15 to 24 years of age.

Prescription opiates (codeine, demerol and morphine) are the only licit substances used by any degree of young Canadians (Table 27). Almost six of every one hundred (5.6%) young Canadians, 15 to 24 years of age, report having used a prescription opiate in the thirty days prior to the survey. Females (5.9%*) are slightly more likely than males (5.3%*) to report use of these substances.

The low rates of licit drug use among young people, 15 to 24 years of age, prevent a more detailed discussion of patterns of use (i.e., the data are suppressed).

■ **Fig. 29: Percentage of Canadians Reporting Use of Sleeping Pills and Tranquillizers in the Month Preceding the Survey, Canada 1989.**



Trend data from the Ontario Student Drug Use Survey (Smart and Adlaf 1989) show declines in the use of medical substances during the past decade. Among students aged 12 to 19, the use of stimulant and diet pills declined from 6.6% in 1977 to 3.3% in 1989; the use of tranquillizers declined from 8.6% in 1977 to 3.1% in 1989; and the use of barbiturates declined from 14.2% in 1977 to 7.8% in 1989.

PART FOUR: MULTIPLE DRUG USE

This section examines the combined use of selected licit and illicit drugs in Canada. ***Multiple drug use*** is defined as the current use of two or more of the following substances: alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, cocaine, LSD, heroin used during the prior year and sleeping pills, tranquillizers and prescription opiates used during the prior 30 days.

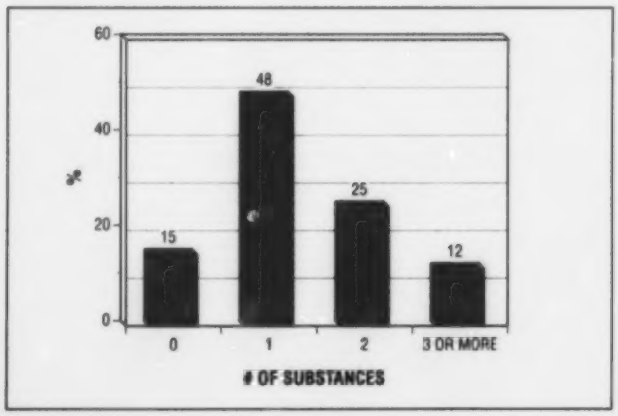
The findings indicate that more than one third (37.0%) of young Canadians, 15 to 24 years of age, are multiple drug users. One-quarter (25.0%) report the current use of two substances, while 12.0% report the use of three drugs or more. One out of every two young Canadians (48.0%) reports the current use of only one drug. A minority (15.0%) did not currently use any of the above substances (Figure 30; Table 28).

Over 30% of youth in each region report using two or more drugs in the year preceding the survey (Figure 31). The highest rates are found in British Columbia (39.0%), Quebec (38.0%) and the Prairie provinces (37.0%), while the lowest rates are found in Ontario and the Atlantic region (31.0% each). The use of three or more drugs is highest in British Columbia (19.0%), followed by the Prairies region (14.0%), Quebec (11.0%), Ontario (11.0%), and the Maritimes (11.0%).

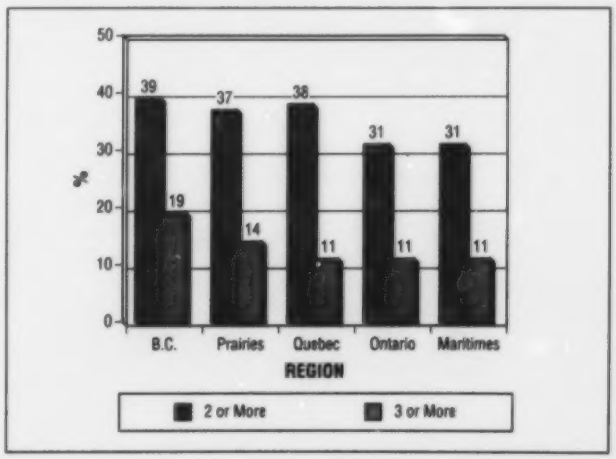
The data suggest that, among youth, multiple drug use increases with age (Table 28). For example, almost half of Canadians between 20 and 24 years of age (46.0%) report using two or more substances in the year preceding the survey, compared to 33.0% of 17- to 19-year-olds and 20.0% of 15- to 16-year-olds. On the other hand, the percentage of young people reporting no drug use decreases with age. Thirty-two percent of 15- to 16-year-olds report that they did not use alcohol, tobacco or other drugs, compared to 15.0% of 17- to 19-year-olds and 9.0%* of 20- to 24-year-olds.

In terms of the entire Canadian population, the data suggest that multiple drug use is more common among younger than older Canadians (Table 29). For example, 37.0% of 15- to 24-year-olds report using two or more substances in the year preceding the survey, compared to 19.7% of those 65 years of age or older. Similarly, 15.9% of those 20 to 24 report using three or more drugs, compared to approximately 5.0% of those 65 years of age or older. The data also suggest that there are at least two distinct types of multiple drug use: alcohol and illicit drug use among the young, and sleeping pill and tranquillizer use among the elderly.

■ **Fig. 30: The Number of Substances Used by Young Canadians, in the Year Preceding the Survey, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**



■ **Fig. 31: Number of Substances Used by Young Canadians, in the Year Preceding the Survey, Age 15 to 24, by Region, Canada 1989.**



■ **Table B: Percentage of Young People Who Used Selected Drugs and Also Used Other Drugs in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.**

	N	Pop. Est (000s)	Alcohol	Tobacco	Marijuana	Cocaine
Total Pop.	1887	3889	81.4	30.3	15.5	2.5*
Alcohol	1535	3173	100.0	33.2	18.7	2.8*
Tobacco	657	1182	89.0	100.0	27.4	5.7*
Marijuana	286	603	98.6	53.7	100.0	13.7*
Cocaine	41	98	89.4	68.5	83.6	100.0

* High Sampling Variability
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

Not only does the number of drugs used vary by age, but so does the pattern or combination of drugs used (Table 29). There are several general findings worthy of mention. Regardless of age, use of alcohol only is the most common pattern, varying from 36.9% to 46.6%. It is also apparent that the percentage restricting their drug use to medical substances increases with age. Finally, it is important to note that less than 1% use marijuana without using other drugs.

Some important differences occur between those aged 15 to 19 and those aged 20 to 24 (Table 29). The most striking difference shows that those aged 20 to 24 are less likely than those 15- to 19-year-olds to use no drugs (8.5% vs. 20.9%). As well, 20- to 24-year-olds are more likely than those aged 15 to 19 to report the use of both alcohol and tobacco (20.7% vs. 11.8%), the use of alcohol and tobacco and medical substances (3.3% vs. 0.9%), and the use of alcohol and tobacco and cannabis (7.9% vs. 3.8%).

An equal proportion of male (38.0%) and female (37.0%) youth report the current use of two or more substances (Table 28). However males (14.0%) are slightly more likely than females (11.0%) to report the use of three or more drugs. On the other hand, females (17.0%) are slightly more likely than males (12.0%) to report that they did not use any drugs in the year preceding the survey. Gender differences are more apparent in the older age categories (Table 28).

Trend data from the Ontario Student Drug Use Survey show large changes in the pattern and number of drugs used. The most striking finding shows that more Ontario students in 1989 used no drug (including alcohol and tobacco) than did students in 1977 (29% vs. 18%). In addition, the survey found more students in 1989 restricted their drug use to alcohol only (35%) than did students in 1979 (28%).

The results of the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey suggest that, among young Canadians, the use of one substance is highly related to the use of other substances (Table B). For example, although young smokers are only slightly more likely to report using alcohol than youth in general (89.0% vs. 81.4%), they are twice as likely to use marijuana (27.4% vs. 15.5%) and cocaine (5.7% vs. 2.5%). Similarly, almost all young marijuana and cocaine users (98.6% and 89.4% respectively) report consuming alcohol in the year preceding the survey.

The rate of tobacco use among young marijuana and cocaine users (53.7% and 68.5% respectively) is also far above the national average (30.3%). Furthermore, marijuana users, 15 to 24 years of age, are approximately seven times more likely to report the current use of cocaine than youth in general (13.7%* vs. 2.5%*). Finally, eight out of every ten cocaine users (83.6%) report using marijuana in the year preceding the survey, compared to 15.5% of the general population.

Much of the public concern over illicit drug use is based on the assumption that the use of various illicit drugs is highly intercorrelated, and the more specific belief that the use of marijuana leads to the use of

"harder" drugs such as cocaine and heroin (Lidz and Walker 1980). Indeed, while early arguments against the legalization of marijuana stressed that it led to aggressive and criminal behaviour, more recent arguments have stressed that it leads to drug addiction. In support of this argument, research has consistently found that marijuana use is highly related to lifetime multiple drug use in both treatment and non-treatment samples (Kandel 1984; Kleinman et al. 1984; Santo and Friedman 1980; Grupp 1972). Retrospective and longitudinal studies have also confirmed that the use of marijuana usually precedes the use of other illicit substances (Rainone et al. 1987; Newcomb and Bentler 1986; Welte and Barnes 1985; O'Donnell and Clayton 1982; Robins and Wish 1977; Single, Kandel and Faust 1974). In fact, most cocaine and heroin addicts reported using marijuana several years before trying harder drugs (Miller et al. 1989). Commenting on the statistical connection between marijuana use and other illegal drugs, one expert has commented that the "evidence supporting these relationships is overwhelming, persuasive, and incontrovertible" (Goode 1989:156).

However, more recent research has suggested that the progression into drug use tends to be cumulative, beginning not with marijuana but with the use of legal substances such as alcohol and tobacco. A number of studies have shown that, unless alcohol or tobacco is used first, there is very little use of other drugs (Donovan et al. 1983; Newcomb and Bentler 1986; Yamaguchi and Kandel 1984b; Wilkinson et al. 1987; Welte and Barnes 1985). This finding is consistent with the fact that a high proportion of those in treatment for illicit drug dependence also require treatment for alcohol abuse (Miller 1987; Gold et al. 1985; Barr and Cohen 1980).

These findings suggest a "stepping-stone" theory of drug use; that is, a pattern of progression from alcohol or tobacco use to marijuana use to the use of cocaine and other hard drugs. However, such progressions are not necessarily causal. The use of one drug does not automatically lead to the use of another. Indeed, results from the 1989 National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey indicate that the vast majority of young drinkers (81.3%) do not use marijuana and that the vast majority of marijuana users (86.3%) do not use cocaine. Moreover, the precise nature of the progression is still unclear. Cigarette smoking and non-prescription medication have been particularly difficult to integrate into progression models (Newcomb and Bentler 1986) and these models vary by gender (Yamaguchi and Kandel 1984). As well, different progression sequences occur between early and late adolescence and young adulthood. Such findings suggest the existence of several sequences that may vary by developmental stage and historical period.

DISCUSSION

Just as society is constantly changing, so are patterns of drug use. Indeed, past (e.g., hallucinogens in the late 1960s) and recent (e.g., cocaine and crack in the 1980s) drug-use history shows that changes in drug use can occur quickly and with little warning. Consequently, it is important to use epidemiological surveys such as the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey to monitor rates of use and characteristics of users in order to better understand the distribution and diffusion of alcohol and other drug-use behaviours. As well, such surveys serve as a vehicle to monitor the progress of implemented policies and programs, such as the Canadian Drug Strategy.

This report focused specifically on youth and young adults for an important reason: the transition from adolescence to young adulthood is a critical period for drug use, and indeed, results of the survey clearly confirm this. There are several general findings worthy of brief comment.

First, it is clear that legal drugs, namely alcohol and tobacco, pose the greatest health threat to youth and young adults. The survey found that 20% of young Canadians consumed five or more drinks of alcohol on a single occasion 15 or more times during the prior year; 23% experienced an alcohol-related problem; 10% experienced three or more alcohol problems; and 69% reported one or more problems caused by other people's drinking. As well, about one-third were current smokers, with 4% of smokers consuming 26 or more cigarettes daily.

Second, illicit drug use among young Canadians is generally low, less than 10%, and has declined during the past decade. However, the low rates of use do not imply that drug use is not problematic among some youth and young adults. Drug use can be exceedingly high among high-risk groups, such as school drop-outs and street youth (Radford et al. 1989; Smart et al. 1990). Also the survey replicated a finding that illegal drug use tends to peak among older adolescents (20 to 24 years) and decline with age (Menard and Huizinga 1989). The specific reasons for declining drug use among adolescents is difficult to evaluate, and is probably due to the cumulative effect of numerous factors rather than due to a few unique factors. Still, research has linked changing drug-specific attitudes and beliefs regarding drugs to the decline in drug use rather than to changing lifestyle factors (Bachman et al. 1988, 1991; Smart and Adlaf 1989).

Only large national surveys are able to examine regional differences in drug use, and the results of the National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey point to the need for more detailed research on regional differences in drug use. Most striking is the general finding that young Canadians from British Columbia are more likely than youth from other regions to use illicit drugs. Further, young Canadians from the Prairie provinces are more likely than other Canadian youth to drink, to drink five drinks or more, to smoke, and to smoke 11 cigarettes or more daily.

The hazardous use of alcohol and other drugs is a social problem endemic to society. Indeed, as results of this survey have shown, drug use poses a health hazard to a large number of youth and young adults.

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APPENDIX A — QUESTIONNAIRE

1: ☐☐☐ - ☐☐☐ - ☐☐☐☐ Telephone number

4: ☐ Stratum

5: ☐☐☐☐ Sequence number

Interviewer Name: _____

1. Would you prefer to be interviewed in English or French?

   1○ English 2○ French ⟶ *(Go to french questionnaire or make appointment)*

2. In general, compared to other persons your age would you say your health is...

   1○ Excellent?
   2○ Very Good?
   3○ Good?
   4○ Fair?
   5○ Poor?

3. During the past 12 months would you describe your life as...

   1○ Very stressful?
   2○ Fairly stressful?
   3○ Not very stressful?
   4○ Not at all stressful?

4. Over the past 12 months when you needed help or had a problem, how supportive or helpful were your family or friends? Were they...

   1○ Very helpful?
   2○ Helpful?
   3○ Somewhat helpful?
   4○ Not helpful?
   5○ N/A, do not need family or friends

5. What is your current marital status? Are you...

   1○ legally married (and not separated)? ⟶ *go to 7*
   2○ separated?
   3○ divorced?
   4○ widowed?
   5○ never married?

6. Are you currently living with a partner?

   1○ Yes 2○ No

TOBACCO CONSUMPTION

7. Now I'd like to ask you some questions about smoking.

   Have you ever been a cigarette smoker?

   1○ Yes 2○ No ⟶ *go to 12*

8. How old were you when you started smoking?

   ☐☐

9. At the present time do you smoke cigarettes?

   1○ Yes ⟶ *go to 11* 2○ No

10. In which year did you stop smoking?

    1 9 ☐☐ year

11. How many cigarettes do/did you usually smoke per day?

    ☐☐ *OR* 1○ Do/did not smoke every day

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

12. The next few questions are about alcohol. In these questions when we use the word drink it means:

    — one bottle of beer or glass of draft
    — one glass of wine or a wine cooler
    — one straight or mixed drink with one ounce and a half of hard liquor

    During the past 12 months have you had a drink of any alcoholic beverage?

    1○ Yes ⟶ *go to 18* 2○ No

13. There are many reasons to limit one's drinking or avoid drinking altogether. What are your reasons for not drinking?

- 01 ○ health reasons, not healthy
- 02 ○ don't like the taste
- 03 ○ don't like the effect it has on me
- 04 ○ I have seen bad examples of what alcohol can do
- 05 ○ for diet reasons, in athletic training
- 06 ○ I am afraid I will become dependent on alcohol
- 07 ○ drinking could affect my job
- 08 ○ waste of money
- 09 ○ religious reasons
- 10 ○ brought up not to drink
- 11 ○ alcoholic or had alcohol problem
- 12 ○ other

14. How often during the past 12 months did you participate in the following activities?

	Less than once a month	1–3 times a month			
	A few times a year	**A few times a month**	**Once a week**	**More than once a week**	**Never**
a) **Spend a quiet evening at home**	01 ○	02 ○	03 ○	04 ○	05 ○
b) **Spend time at someone else's home**	06 ○	07 ○	08 ○	09 ○	10 ○
c) **Have friends or relatives visit your home**	11 ○	12 ○	13 ○	14 ○	15 ○
d) **Go to a restaurant in the evening (excluding fast food)**	16 ○	17 ○	18 ○	19 ○	20 ○
e) **Go to a restaurant for lunch (excluding fast food)**	21 ○	22 ○	23 ○	24 ○	25 ○
f) **Go to a bar/tavern**	26 ○	27 ○	28 ○	29 ○	30 ○
g) **Go to a club or a meeting**	31 ○	32 ○	33 ○	34 ○	35 ○

15. How many times during the past 12 months did you participate in the following special occasions or seasonal activities?

	Less than 12 times	12–51 times	52 times	More than 52 times	
	A few times a year	**A few times a month**	**Once a week**	**More than once a week**	**Never**
a) **Leisure activities such as being at a cottage, camping or boating**	01 ○	02 ○	03 ○	04 ○	05 ○
b) **Sports activities such as skiing, softball or golf**	06 ○	07 ○	08 ○	09 ○	10 ○
c) **Attend a party, social gathering or wedding**	11 ○	12 ○	13 ○	14 ○	15 ○
d) **Go to a concert, sports event or festival**	16 ○	17 ○	18 ○	19 ○	20 ○

16. Did you ever drink alcoholic beverages regularly?

[1] ○ Yes ⟶ *go to 37*

[2] ○ No

17. Does this mean that you have never had a drink?

[1] ○ Yes
[2] ○ No
} *go to 48*

18. I'm going to read several statements about the reasons why people drink. For each tell me if it is a reason you drink. Do you drink...

	Yes	No
a) To be sociable?	[01] ○	[02] ○
b) To add to the enjoyment of meals?	[03] ○	[04] ○
c) To feel good?	[05] ○	[06] ○
d) To help you relax?	[07] ○	[08] ○
e) To forget worries?	[09] ○	[10] ○
f) To feel less inhibited or shy?	[11] ○	[12] ○

19. During the past 12 months how often on average did you drink alcoholic beverages? Was it...

[1] ○ everyday?

[2] ○ 4–6 times a week?

[3] ○ 2–3 times a week?

[4] ○ once a week?

[5] ○ 1–3 times a month?

[6] ○ less than once a month?

20. On the days when you drank how many drinks did you usually have?

☐☐ number of drinks

21. What types of alcoholic beverages do you usually drink? *(mark all that apply)*

[1] ○ beer

[2] ○ light beer

[3] ○ wine

[4] ○ wine coolers

[5] ○ straight liquor

[6] ○ mixed liquor

[7] ○ other

22. How many times in the past 12 months have you had FIVE or more drinks on one occasion?

☐☐☐

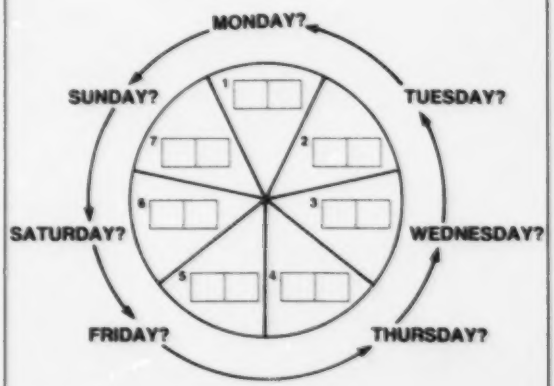
23. In the past 12 months, what is the highest number of drinks you can recall having on any one occasion?

☐☐

24. Thinking back over the last 7 days, starting with yesterday, how many drinks did you have on each day?

[1] ○ None at all ⟶ *go to 25*

How many drinks did you have on...



25. How often during the past 12 months did you participate in the following activities?

	Less than once a month / A few times a year	1–3 times a month / A few times a month	Once a week	More than once a week	Never
a) Spend a quiet evening at home	01	02	03	04	05
b) Spend time at someone else's home	06	07	08	09	10
c) Have friends or relatives visit your home	11	12	13	14	15
d) Go to a restaurant in the evening (excluding fast food)	16	17	18	19	20
e) Go to a restaurant for lunch (excluding fast food)	21	22	23	24	25
f) Go to a bar/tavern	26	27	28	29	30
g) Go to a club or a meeting	31	32	33	34	35

B. When you _____ how often do you drink? Never, less than half the time, half the time, more than half the time or always?

	Never	Less than ½ the time	½ the time	More than ½ the time	Always
a) Spend a quiet evening at home	01	02	03	04	05
b) Spend time at someone else's home	06	07	08	09	10
c) Have friends or relatives visit your home	11	12	13	14	15
d) Go to a restaurant in the evening (excluding fast food)	16	17	18	19	20
e) Go to a restaurant for lunch (excluding fast food)	21	22	23	24	25
f) Go to a bar/tavern	26	27	28	29	30
g) Go to a club or a meeting	31	32	33	34	35

C. How many drinks do you usually have?

	Number of drinks
a) Spend a quiet evening at home	1
b) Spend time at someone else's home	2
c) Have friends or relatives visit your home	3
d) Go to a restaurant in the evening (excluding fast food)	4
e) Go to a restaurant for lunch (excluding fast food)	5
f) Go to a bar/tavern	6
g) Go to a club or a meeting	7

26. How many times during the past 12 months did you participate in the following special occasions or seasonal activities?

	Less than 12 times / A few times a year	12–51 times / A few times a month	52 times / Once a week	More than 52 times / More than once a week	Never
a) leisure activities such as being at a cottage, camping or boating	01	02	03	04	05
b) sports activities such as skiing, softball or golf	06	07	08	09	10
c) Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	11	12	13	14	15
d) Go to a concert, sports event, or festival	16	17	18	19	20

B. When you _____ how often do you drink? Never, less than half the time, half the time, more than half the time or always?

	Never	Less than ½ the time	½ the time	More than ½ the time	Always
a) leisure activities such as being at a cottage, camping or boating	01	02	03	04	05
b) sports activities such as skiing, softball or golf	06	07	08	09	10
c) Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	11	12	13	14	15
d) Go to a concert, sports event, or festival	16	17	18	19	20

C. How many drinks do you usually have?

	Number of drinks
a) leisure activities such as being at a cottage, camping or boating	1
b) sports activities such as skiing, softball or golf	2
c) Attend a party, social gathering or wedding	3
d) Go to a concert, sports event, or festival	4

27. During the past 12 months, how often did you drink...

	Never	Less than once a month: A few times a year	1–3 times a month: A few times a month	Once a week	More than once a week
a) with friends?	01	02	03	04	05
b) with your spouse/ partner?	06	07	08	09	10
c) with family members or relatives?	11	12	13	14	15
d) with co-workers?	16	17	18	19	20
e) by yourself or when others were not drinking?	21	22	23	24	25

(If respondent is not married or living with a partner do not ask, and mark 'never')

28. As the price of alcoholic beverages has increased, have you...

	Yes	No
a) cut down the amount you drink (buy)?	01	02
b) switched to a cheaper brand?	03	04
c) made your own?	05	06
d) drank at home instead of going out to drink?	07	08
e) bought more duty free liquor whenever possible?	09	10
f) looked for occasions when drinks were free?	11	12

29. In the past 12 months, have you been invited to have a drink by any of the following?

	Yes	No
a) your spouse/partner *(If respondent is not married or living with a partner do not ask, and mark 'no')*	1	2
b) a family member or relative	3	4
c) a friend	5	6
d) a co-worker	7	8

30. In the past 12 months, have you taken a drink to please anyone although you did not feel like drinking?

1 Yes 2 No → *go to 31*

Was it to please...

	Yes	No
a) your spouse/partner? *(If respondent is not married or living with a partner, do not ask, and mark 'no')*	1	2
b) a family member or relative?	3	4
c) a friend?	5	6
d) a co-worker?	7	8

31. In the past 12 months, has there been an occasion when you would have liked to take a drink but did not in order to please anyone?

1 Yes 2 No → *go to 32*

Was it to please...

	Yes	No
a) your spouse/partner? *(If respondent is not married or living with a partner do not ask, and mark 'no')*	1	2
b) a family member or relative?	3	4
c) a friend?	5	6
d) a co-worker?	7	8

32. Do you drive a motor vehicle?

1 Yes 2 No → *go to 35*

33. In the past 12 months have you been in a motor vehicle accident with you as the driver, even if it wasn't your fault?

1 Yes 2 No

34. In the past 12 months, how many times have you driven after having two or more drinks in the previous hour?

☐☐ number of occurrences

35. Have you ever had any contact with the police as a result of your drinking?

[1] ○ Yes [2] ○ No

36. Was there ever a time that you felt your alcohol use had a harmful effect on...

		Was this during the past 12 months? Yes	No
a) your friendships or social life?	[01] ○ Yes →	[01] ○	[02] ○
	[02] ○ No		
b) your physical health?	[03] ○ Yes →	[03] ○	[04] ○
	[04] ○ No		
c) your outlook on life (happiness)?	[05] ○ Yes →	[05] ○	[06] ○
	[06] ○ No		
d) your home life or marriage?	[07] ○ Yes →	[07] ○	[08] ○
	[08] ○ No		
e) your work, studies or employment opportunities?	[09] ○ Yes →	[09] ○	[10] ○
	[10] ○ No		
f) your financial position?	[11] ○ Yes →	[11] ○	[12] ○
	[12] ○ No		

37. Have you ever stopped drinking altogether for a period of time?

[1] ○ Yes [2] ○ No → *go to 40*

38. When was the last time? Was it...

[1] ○ within the past 12 months?

[2] ○ 1–5 years ago?

[3] ○ over 5 years ago?

39. How long did it last?

[1] ○ still continuing

[2] ○ less than 1 month

[3] ○ 1–3 months

[4] ○ 4–6 months

[5] ○ 7–11 months

[6] ○ 1–2 years

[7] ○ 3–5 years

[8] ○ more than 5 years

40. Have you ever reduced or cut down the amount you drink without quitting completely?

[1] ○ Yes → *go to 42* [2] ○ No

41. *INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM:*

[1] ○ *If 'No' in 37 and 'No' in 40 go to 46*

[2] ○ *Otherwise go to 44*

42. When was the last time? Was it...

[1] ○ within the past 12 months?

[2] ○ 1–5 years ago?

[3] ○ over 5 years ago?

43. How long did it last?

[1] ○ still continuing

[2] ○ less than 1 month

[3] ○ 1–3 months

[4] ○ 4–6 months

[5] ○ 7–11 months

[6] ○ 1–2 years

[7] ○ 3–5 years

[8] ○ more than 5 years

44. Why did you reduce drinking or quit drinking altogether?

	Yes	No
a) for reasons such as pregnancy, dieting, athletic training, etc.	[01] ○	[02] ○
b) because you were getting older	[03] ○	[04] ○
c) you thought you were drinking too much/or had a drinking problem	[05] ○	[06] ○
d) it was affecting your work, studies or employment opportunities	[07] ○	[08] ○
e) it was interfering with your family or home life	[09] ○	[10] ○
f) it was affecting your physical health	[11] ○	[12] ○
g) it was affecting your friendships or social life	[13] ○	[14] ○
h) it was affecting your financial position	[15] ○	[16] ○
i) it was affecting your outlook on life, happiness	[17] ○	[18] ○
j) because of influence from your family or friends	[19] ○	[20] ○

45. Which of the following things did you do to reduce the amount you drink, or to quit altogether?

	Yes	No
a) Skip parties or other social events?	01○	02○
b) Avoid being with friends who drink a lot?	03○	04○
c) Go to bars and taverns less often?	05○	06○
d) Limit the number of drinks you have?	07○	08○
e) Change what you drink? (eg. changed to soft drinks or light beer)	09○	10○
f) Get involved in activities that do not include drinking?	11○	12○

46. There are many services and help for people concerned about drinking. Have you ever used any of the services or help offered for yourself?

1○ Yes 2○ No ⟶ *go to 48*

47. Which services or help did you use?

01○ family member/friend

02○ A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous), Al-Anon, support group

03○ psychologist, psychiatrist, social worker

04○ psychiatric hospital

05○ minister, priest, rabbi

06○ doctor, nurse

07○ hospital, emergency department

08○ alcohol/drug addiction agency

09○ detox (detoxification) centre, halfway house

10○ other

48. *INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM:*

1○ *If legally married or living with partner (1 in Q5 or 1 in Q6), go to 49*

2○ *Otherwise, go to 51*

49. Thinking about the past 12 months, how often has your spouse/partner had a drink? Was it...

1○ everyday?

2○ 4–6 times a week?

3○ 2–3 times a week?

4○ once a week?

5○ 1–3 times a month?

6○ less than once a month?

7○ don't know

8○ never? ⟶ *go to 51*

50. On the days when he/she drank, how many drinks did he/she usually have?

☐☐ number of drinks

51. Now I'll describe situations that people sometimes find themselves in. For each one, please tell me how much a person in that situation should feel free to drink.

	Should there be... No drinking?	1–2 drinks?	Enough to feel the effects?	Getting drunk is sometimes OK?	Don't know
a) at a party, at someone else's home?	01○	02○	03○	04○	05○
b) for a man out at a bar with friends?	06○	07○	08○	09○	10○
c) for a woman out at a bar with friends?	11○	12○	13○	14○	15○
d) for a couple having dinner at home?	16○	17○	18○	19○	20○
e) for co-workers out to lunch?	21○	22○	23○	24○	25○
f) with friends at your home?	26○	27○	28○	29○	30○
g) when getting together with friends after work before going home?	31○	32○	33○	34○	35○
h) when getting together with people for sports events or recreation?	36○	37○	38○	39○	40○

	Yes	No	Don't know/ N/A
52. a) Have you ever spoken to somebody at work because drinking was affecting their performance?	1	2	3
b) Have you ever driven/or arranged for transportation to take someone home from a party because you thought they had too much to drink?	4	5	6
c) Have you ever called the police after seeing a drunk person get behind the wheel or drive dangerously?	7	8	9

53. The next few questions are about your experience with other people's drinking problems. Have you ever...

		Was this during the past 12 months? Yes	No
a) Been insulted or humiliated by someone who had been drinking?	01 Yes / 02 No	01	02
b) Had serious arguments or quarrels as a result of someone else's drinking?	03 Yes / 04 No	03	04
c) Had friendships break up as a result of someone else's drinking?	05 Yes / 06 No	05	06
d) Had family problems or marriage difficulties due to someone else's drinking?	07 Yes / 08 No	07	08
e) Been a passenger with a driver who had too much to drink?	09 Yes / 10 No	09	10
f) Been in a motor vehicle accident because of someone else's drinking?	11 Yes / 12 No	11	12
g) Had your property vandalized by someone who had been drinking?	13 Yes / 14 No	13	14
h) Been pushed, hit or assaulted by someone who had been drinking?	15 Yes / 16 No	15	16
i) Been disturbed by loud parties or the behaviour of people drinking?	17 Yes / 18 No	17	18
j) Had financial trouble because of someone else's drinking?	19 Yes / 20 No	19	20

54.

		Was this during the past 12 months? Yes	No
a) Has your spouse/ partner ever had a drinking problem? *(If respondent is not married or living with a partner do not ask, and mark 'no')*	1 Yes / 2 No	1	2
b) Has a family member or relative ever had a drinking problem?	3 Yes / 4 No	3	4
c) Have you ever had a friend with a drinking problem?	5 Yes / 6 No	5	6
d) Have you ever known a co-worker who had a drinking problem?	7 Yes / 8 No	7	8

55. *INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM:*

1 *If all 'NO' in 54, go to 58*

2 *If one or more 'yes' responses, refer to the first 'yes' in 54 when asking questions 56 and 57.*

56. Did you do any of the following because of your _____'s drinking problem? Did you...

	Yes	No
a) avoid the person?	1	2
b) give advice?	3	4
c) suggest they seek professional help or help them to get assistance?	5	6 → *go to 58*

57. Which services or help did you suggest?

- 01 family member/friend
- 02 A.A.(Alcoholics Anonymous), Al-Anon, support group
- 03 Psychologist, psychiatrist, social worker
- 04 psychiatric hospital
- 05 minister, priest, rabbi
- 06 doctor, nurse
- 07 hospital, emergency department
- 08 alcohol/drug addiction agency
- 09 detox (detoxification) centre, halfway house
- 10 other

58. The next few questions refer to the use of medicines and pills in the last 30 days.

INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM: *If respondent is a non-drinker (No to Q12) do not ask Part C.*

	A. In the past 30 days did you take any of the following medications?	B. Was this with a doctor's order or prescription?	C. Did you consume any alcoholic beverages while using this medication?
a) aspirin or similar pain reliever (includes arthritis medicine)	[01] Yes → [02] No	[01] Yes [02] No	[01] Yes [02] No
b) tranquilizers such as valium	[03] Yes → [04] No	[03] Yes [04] No	[03] Yes [04] No
c) diet pills or stimulants	[05] Yes → [06] No	[05] Yes [06] No	[05] Yes [06] No
d) anti-depressants	[07] Yes → [08] No	[07] Yes [08] No	[07] Yes [08] No
e) codeine, demerol, morphine	[09] Yes → [10] No	[09] Yes [10] No	[09] Yes [10] No
f) allergy medicine such as sinutab	[11] Yes → [12] No	[11] Yes [12] No	[11] Yes [12] No
g) cough or cold remedies	[13] Yes → [14] No	[13] Yes [14] No	[13] Yes [14] No
h) penicillin or similar antibiotics	[15] Yes → [16] No	[15] Yes [16] No	[15] Yes [16] No
i) medicine for the heart or blood pressure	[17] Yes → [18] No	[17] Yes [18] No	[17] Yes [18] No
j) insulin or similar diabetic medicine	[19] Yes → [20] No	[19] Yes [20] No	[19] Yes [20] No
k) sleeping pills	[21] Yes → [22] No	[21] Yes [22] No	[21] Yes [22] No
l) stomach remedies, laxatives	[23] Yes → [24] No	[23] Yes [24] No	[23] Yes [24] No

59. Have you ever used any of the following?

		B. Have you used it in the past 12 months? Yes	No
a) Marijuana or hash	01 Yes →	01	02
	02 No		
b) Cocaine or crack	03 Yes →	03	04
	04 No		
c) LSD (acid)	05 Yes →	05	06
	06 No		
d) Speed (amphetamines)	07 Yes →	07	08
	08 No		
e) Heroin	09 Yes →	09	10
	10 No		

IF ALL NO IN 59 GO TO 68

60. There are many services and help for people concerned about drugs. Have you ever used any of the services or help offered for yourself?

1 Yes 2 No

61. Have you ever had any contact with the police as a result of your drug use?

1 Yes 2 No

62. *INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM:*

1 *If respondent has used marijuana in the past 12 months ('yes' to second part of 59a) go to 63*

2 *Otherwise, go to 68*

63. I'm going to read several statements about the reasons why people use marijuana or hash. For each tell me if that is a reason you have for using marijuana.

	Yes	No
a) To feel high	01	02
b) To relax	03	04
c) To forget worries	05	06
d) To be sociable	07	08
e) To feel less inhibited or shy	09	10
f) To see what it was like	11	12

64. How often have you used marijuana or hash in the past 12 months?

1 less than once a month

2 1–3 times a month

3 once a week

4 more than once a week

65. During the past 12 months have you used marijuana or hash in the following places?

	Yes	No
a) at a bar/tavern	01	02
b) at a private home	03	04
c) at school/university	05	06
d) at a party or social gathering	07	08
e) at a concert, sports event, festival, etc.	09	10
f) outdoors: while boating, camping, skiing, fishing	11	12

66. Have you used marijuana or hash with the following people during the last 12 months?

	Yes	No
a) with your spouse/partner *(If respondent is not married or living with a partner do not ask, and mark 'no')*	01	02
b) with a family member or relative	03	04
c) with friends	05	06
d) with co-workers	07	08
e) while alone	09	10

67. In the past 12 months have you driven within two hours of using marijuana/hash?

1 Yes 2 No

68. The next few questions concern problems with the use of illegal drugs or prescription drugs which may have been experienced by others.

	Yes	No
a) Has your spouse/partner ever had a drug problem? *(If respondent is not married or living with a partner do not ask, and mark 'no')*	1	2
b) Has a family member or relative ever had a drug problem?	3	4
c) Have you ever had a friend with a drug problem?	5	6
d) Have you ever known a co-worker who had a drug problem?	7	8

69. ***INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM:***

[1] ○ *If all 'NO' in 68 ⟶ go to 72.*

[2] ○ *If one or more 'YES' responses refer to the first 'YES' in 68 when asking questions 70 and 71.*

70. Did you do any of the following because of your _____'s drug problem? Did you...

	Yes	No	
a) avoid the person?	[1] ○	[2] ○	
b) give advice?	[3] ○	[4] ○	
c) suggest they seek professional help or help them to get assistance?	[5] ○	[6] ○	⟶ *go to 72*

71. Which services or help did you suggest?

[01] ○ family member, friend

[02] ○ A.A.(Alcoholics Anonymous), Al-Anon, support group, Narcotics Anonymous

[03] ○ psychologist, psychiatrist, social worker

[04] ○ psychiatric hospital

[05] ○ minister, priest, rabbi

[06] ○ doctor, nurse

[07] ○ hospital, emergency department

[08] ○ alcohol/drug addiction agency

[09] ○ detoxification (detox) centre, half-way house

[10] ○ other

72. Have any of the following situations ever happened to you?

	Yes	No
a) Have there been times when you would have welcomed more details from your pharmacist or doctor about side-effects of medication?	[1] ○	[2] ○
b) Have you ever expressed concern to a friend or relative about their use of prescription drugs?	[3] ○	[4] ○
c) Have you ever contacted the police because you knew of someone using drugs?	[5] ○	[6] ○
d) Have you ever suggested to a friend that they stop using drugs?	[7] ○	[8] ○

73. Now we have just a few more questions to ask on how you feel about laws concerning alcohol and drugs. Do you think...

	Increase	Decrease	Same	Don't know
a) Taxes on alcoholic beverages should be increased, decreased or remain the same?	[01] ○	[02] ○	[03] ○	[04] ○
b) Beer and liquor store hours should be increased, decreased or remain the same?	[05] ○	[06] ○	[07] ○	[08] ○
c) The legal drinking age should be raised, lowered or remain the same?	[09] ○	[10] ○	[11] ○	[12] ○
d) Efforts to prevent drunken customers being served should be increased, decreased or remain the same?	[13] ○	[14] ○	[15] ○	[16] ○
e) Government's advertising against drinking should be increased, decreased or remain the same?	[17] ○	[18] ○	[19] ○	[20] ○
f) Alcohol or drug education and prevention programs should be increased, decreased or remain the same?	[21] ○	[22] ○	[23] ○	[24] ○
g) Treatment programs should be increased, decreased or remain the same?	[25] ○	[26] ○	[27] ○	[28] ○

74. Do you think alcoholic beverages should be available in the corner stores?

[1]○ Yes [2]○ No [3]○ Don't know

75. Do you think alcoholic beverages should have warning labels about possible health hazards?

[1]○ Yes [2]○ No [3]○ Don't know

76. Should the government prohibit wine, liquor and beer advertising on T.V.?

[1]○ Yes [2]○ No [3]○ Don't know

77. Should the government prohibit wine/liquor/beer companies from sponsoring sporting or cultural events?

[1]○ Yes [2]○ No [3]○ Don't know

78. We would like your opinion about programs to reduce problems with alcohol, abuse of medication, and illegal drug use. Do you think...

	Very effective	Moderately effective	Not at all effective	Don't know/ No opinion
a) self help programs such as AA, are very effective, moderately effective, not effective at all?	[01]○	[02]○	[03]○	[04]○
b) emergency telephone services are very effective, moderately effective, not effective at all?	[05]○	[06]○	[07]○	[08]○
c) community prevention efforts such as providing workshops and information on alcohol and drugs are very effective, moderately effective, not effective at all?	[09]○	[10]○	[11]○	[12]○
d) treatment by social workers or medical staff in the area of alcohol and drugs are very effective, moderately effective, not effective at all?	[13]○	[14]○	[15]○	[16]○

79. The possession of marijuana is currently illegal in Canada. Do you think a person should get a criminal record if he/she is caught possessing marijuana?

[1]○ Yes [2]○ No [3]○ Don't know

80. Do the following problems exist in your community or neighbourhood enough for you to be concerned?

	Yes	No
a) drinking and driving?	[01]○	[02]○
b) family conflicts related to alcohol use?	[03]○	[04]○
c) public fights or disturbances from alcohol use?	[05]○	[06]○
d) alcohol related health problems?	[07]○	[08]○
e) problems in the workplace due to alcohol use?	[09]○	[10]○
f) misuse of prescription drugs and over the counter drugs?	[11]○	[12]○
g) illegal drug use or criminal activity due to alcohol or drugs?	[13]○	[14]○

81. Now I would like to ask you a few questions about yourself.

How much do you currently weigh?

[1] ☐☐☐ pounds *OR* [2] ☐☐☐ kilograms

82. How tall are you?

[1] ☐ feet ☐☐ inches *OR* [2] ☐☐☐ centimetres

83. What is the highest grade or level of education you have ever completed?

[1]○ No schooling
[2]○ Elementary
[3]○ Some } secondary
[4]○ Completed } secondary
[5]○ Some } community college, technical college, CEGEP, nurse's training
[6]○ Completed } community college, technical college, CEGEP, nurse's training
[7]○ Some } university or teacher's college
[8]○ Completed } university or teacher's college
[9]○ Other education or training

84. Which of the following best describes your main activity during the past 12 months? Were you mainly...

[1]○ **Working at a job or business** ⟶ *go to 86*
[2]○ **Looking for work** ⟶ *go to 85*
[3]○ **A student** } *go to 88*
[4]○ **Retired** } *go to 88*
[5]○ **Keeping house** } *go to 88*
[6]○ other } *go to 88*

85. Did you have a job at any time during the past 12 months?

1 ○ Yes 2 ○ No ⟶ *go to 88*

86. What kind of business, industry or service is/was it that you work/worked for?

87. What kind of work do/did you do?

88. In the past FIVE years, have you been continuously unemployed for a year or longer (that is not being paid for work but looking for work)?

1 ○ Yes 2 ○ No

89. What language do you speak at home now *(if more than one language, which is spoken most often)*?

1 ○ English
2 ○ French
3 ○ German
4 ○ Italian
5 ○ Chinese
6 ○ Other

90. Which ethnic or cultural group do you belong to?

01 ○ Canadian
02 ○ French
03 ○ English (British)
04 ○ German
05 ○ Scottish
06 ○ Irish
07 ○ Italian
08 ○ Ukrainian
09 ○ Dutch
10 ○ Chinese
11 ○ Jewish
12 ○ Polish
13 ○ Portugese
14 ○ Other

91. What if any is your religion?

01 ○ None ⟶ *go to 93*
02 ○ Roman Catholic
03 ○ United Church
04 ○ Anglican
05 ○ Presbyterian
06 ○ Baptist
07 ○ Pentecostal
08 ○ Lutheran
09 ○ Greek Orthodox
10 ○ Ukrainian Catholic
11 ○ Jewish
12 ○ Jehovah's Witness
13 ○ Mennonite
14 ○ Islam
15 ○ Hindu
16 ○ Other

92. Do you consider yourself to be very religious, moderately religious, or not very religious?

1 ○ Very religious
2 ○ Moderately religious
3 ○ Not very religious

93. Are there any children under 15 living in the household?

1 ○ Yes 2 ○ No

How many are...

5 years old or less? 1

6 to 11 years old? 2

12 to 14 years old? 3

94. What was your household's total income from all sources before taxes and deductions for 1988? Was it...

10 ○ **Less than $20,000**
- 11 ○ **Less than $10,000**
  - 13 ○ **Less than $5,000**
  - 14 ○ **$5,000 or more**
- 12 ○ **$10,000 or more**
  - 15 ○ **Less than $15,000**
  - 16 ○ **$15,000 or more**

20 ○ **$20,000 or more**
- 21 ○ **Less than $40,000**
  - 23 ○ **Less than $30,000**
  - 24 ○ **$30,000 or more**
- 22 ○ **$40,000 or more**
  - 25 ○ **Less than $60,000**
  - 26 ○ **$60,000 or more**

97 ○ no income
98 ○ don't know

95. How many household members contributed to this income?

[1] ○ one

[2] ○ two

[3] ○ three

[4] ○ four or more

THANK RESPONDENT

Comments:

APPENDIX B — METHODOLOGY

The two random digit-dialling methods used were the "Elimination of Non-Working Banks Design" for Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario and Alberta (Statistics Canada 1986), and the "Waksberg" method for the other six provinces (Waksberg 1978). Data collection was conducted from centralized telephone interviewing locations in Statistics Canada's eight regional offices.

Approximately 2% of the households in Canada do not have telephones and were therefore excluded from the survey. Previous studies indicate that these households tend to consist of young, single men who are less educated than the general population.

Because the level of response is so high (79%), the numbers and percentages of non-responses are not shown in the tables.

The estimates derived from this survey were based on a sample of households. Somewhat different figures might have been obtained if a census of the total population had been taken. The difference between the estimates taken from the sample and the results of a complete count is called the "sampling error of the estimate."

Although the exact sampling error cannot be measured from sample results alone, it is possible to produce a statistical measure of sampling error from the sample data: this is the standard error. Using the standard error, confidence intervals for estimates (ignoring the effects of non-sampling error) may be obtained under the assumption that the estimates are normally distributed about the true population value. The chances of the difference between a sample estimate and the true population value being less than one standard error is about 68%, about 95% that the difference would be less than two standard errors, and it is virtually certain that the differences would be less than three standard errors.

Because of the large variety of estimates that can be produced from a survey, the standard error is usually expressed relative to the estimate to which it pertains. The resulting measure, known as the "coefficient of variation" (CV), is obtained by dividing the standard error of the estimate by the estimate itself. It is expressed as a percentage of the estimate.

Data published in this report have been reviewed for release according to the following criteria:

(a) unqualified – CV not larger than 16.5%;

(b) qualified – CV between 16.6% and 33.3% (marked with an asterisk to indicate that the estimate should be regarded with caution);

(c) suppressed – CV greater than 33.3% (not released).

APPENDIX C – TABLES

■ Table 1: Type of Drinker and Number of Drinks Consumed in the Week Preceding the Survey, Age 15 to 24, by Age and Sex, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Abstainers		Current Drinkers	Past 7 Days			Ave #. of drinks per week
			Lifetime	Former drinker		0	1-7	8+	
Total 15-24	1887	3899	7.6	11.0	81.4	52.0	33.6	14.4	3.4
Male	901	1983	7.3	7.9	84.8	44.5	34.1	21.4	4.8
Female	986	1916	7.9	14.3	77.8	60.4	33.1	6.5	1.9
15 to 16	308	664	17.7	18.8	63.5	74.7	22.5	—	1.0
Male	166	357	*20.0	*18.8	61.2	69.4	25.8	—	1.3
Female	142	308	*15.0	*18.9	66.1	80.4	*19.0	—	.6
17 to 19	530	1201	8.3	11.5	80.2	55.1	33.0	12.0	3.0
Male	246	599	*7.6	*7.6	84.8	50.8	33.4	15.9	3.9
Female	284	602	*9.0	15.3	75.7	59.9	32.6	*7.5	1.9
20 to 24	1,049	2,034	3.8	8.3	87.9	45.0	36.6	18.5	4.3
Male	489	1,027	2.6	4.3	93.1	35.5	36.4	28.2	6.1
Female	560	1,007	5.0	12.4	82.6	55.9	36.8	7.3	2.2

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 2: Frequency of Alcohol Consumption among Young Current Drinkers in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Less than 1 a month	1-3 times a month	Once a week	2 or more times per week	Usual # of drinks per occas.
Total	1,535	3,173	26.9	28.4	21.1	21.5	3.7
Male	763	1,682	21.6	24.8	24.1	29.4	4.3
Female	772	1,491	37.1	32.5	17.7	12.6	3.0
15-16	186	422	60.1	20.6	11.9	*7.3	2.7
Male	98	218	51.9	20.6	*13.5	*13.9	2.9
Female	88	203	68.9	20.6	*10.2	—	2.5
17-19	424	964	31.5	33.4	18.4	16.7	3.8
Male	209	508	24.6	32.3	23.6	*19.5	4.4
Female	215	455	39.2	34.7	*12.5	*13.6	3.2
20-24	925	1,787	20.2	27.5	24.8	27.5	3.9
Male	456	955	13.2	21.8	26.8	38.2	4.7
Female	469	832	28.3	34.1	22.4	15.1	3.0

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 3: Number of Times Consumed Five or More Drinks on One Occasion, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada, 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Number of Times Had 5+ Drinks			
			0	1-5	6-14	15+
Total 15-24	1535	3,173	33.0	35.1	11.9	20.0
Male	763	1,682	25.2	32.0	13.8	29.0
Female	772	1,491	41.8	38.6	9.8	9.8
15-16	186	442	47.1	37.9	*5.5	*9.4
Male	98	218	44.7	37.9	—	*13.2
Female	88	203	49.8	37.9	—	—
17-19	424	964	34.8	33.5	12.6	19.0
Male	209	508	30.3	30.0	*11.5	28.2
Female	215	455	39.9	37.5	*13.9	*8.7
20-24	925	1,787	28.6	35.3	13.1	23.0
Male	456	955	18.1	31.7	17.3	33.0
Female	469	832	40.8	39.5	8.2	11.5

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 4: Type of Drinker and Number of Drinks Consumed in the Week Preceding the Survey, by Region and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Abstainers		Current Drinkers	Past 7 Days			Ave #. of drinks per week
			Lifetime	Former drinker		0	1-7	8+	
Total 15-24	1887	3899	7.6	11.0	81.4	52.0	33.6	14.4	3.4
Male	901	1983	7.3	7.9	84.8	44.5	34.1	21.4	4.8
Female	986	1916	7.9	14.3	77.8	60.4	33.1	6.5	1.9
Atlantic Prov.	652	385	*9.7	15.6	74.7	60.5	28.8	*10.8	2.5
Male	315	196	*6.3	*13.4	80.3	54.5	30.5	*15.1	3.4
Female	337	190	*13.3	17.8	68.9	67.7	26.7	—	1.4
Quebec	262	960	8.4	8.7	82.9	48.9	38.6	12.5	3.0
Male	113	488	*6.5	—	88.9	38.5	42.6	18.9	4.1
Female	149	472	10.3	13.0	76.7	61.3	33.8	—	1.7
Ontario	316	1,433	8.2	13.7	78.1	53.6	31.5	14.9	3.6
Male	150	730	8.2	11.1	80.7	51.0	27.3	21.7	4.9
Female	166	703	8.3	16.4	75.3	56.6	36.1	*7.3	2.1
Prairie Prov.	501	695	*5.3	7.6	87.1	50.7	32.3	17.0	4.1
Male	245	353	*7.6	—	88.6	39.4	35.7	24.9	6.0
Female	256	342	—	11.6	85.4	62.7	28.8	*8.5	2.1
British Col.	156	426	*5.1	*9.3	85.6	49.2	35.3	15.5	3.6
Male	78	216	*6.1	—	87.3	38.0	36.2	25.8	5.3
Female	78	210	—	*12.1	83.9	61.1	34.3	—	1.8

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 5: Frequency of Alcohol Consumption among Young Current Drinkers in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, by Region and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Less than 1 a month	1-3 times a month	Once a week	2 or more times per week	Usual # of drinks per occas.
Total	1,535	3,173	28.9	28.4	21.1	21.5	3.7
Male	763	1,682	21.6	24.8	24.1	29.4	4.3
Female	772	1,491	37.1	32.5	17.7	12.6	3.0
Atlantic Prov.	491	287	34.0	32.1	21.3	12.6	4.3
Male	250	156	24.7	31.1	27.0	17.1	5.3
Female	241	131	45.1	33.2	*14.5	—	3.1
Quebec	219	796	28.7	28.0	22.1	21.2	3.2
Male	100	434	23.1	21.7	27.4	27.7	3.9
Female	119	362	35.3	35.5	15.8	*13.4	2.4
Ontario	253	1,119	30.8	28.3	20.2	20.7	3.5
Male	124	590	24.3	25.1	21.5	29.1	4.0
Female	129	529	37.9	32.0	18.7	*11.4	2.9
Prairie Prov.	437	605	24.6	28.0	21.8	25.6	4.3
Male	221	313	13.4	26.3	24.4	35.9	4.9
Female	216	292	36.6	29.8	18.9	*14.7	3.7
British Columbia	113	364	27.2	27.3	20.7	24.9	3.8
Male	67	189	20.9	23.4	21.8	33.8	4.6
Female	66	175	33.9	31.4	19.4	*15.2	2.9

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 6: Number of Times Consumed Five or More Drinks on One Occasion, by Region and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada, 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Number of Times Had 5+ Drinks			
			0	1-5	6-14	15+
Total 15-24	1535	3,173	33.0	35.1	11.9	20.0
Male	763	1,682	25.2	32.0	13.8	29.0
Female	772	1,491	41.8	38.6	9.8	9.8
Atlantic Prov.	491	287	25.4	46.2	12.9	15.5
Male	250	156	*16.2	42.3	19.4	22.1
Female	241	131	36.4	50.9	—	—
Quebec	219	796	41.4	33.8	*6.9	17.9
Male	100	434	34.3	29.9	*8.5	27.3
Female	119	362	49.9	38.5	—	—
Ontario	253	1,119	37.2	30.3	14.6	18.0
Male	124	590	31.8	26.0	14.9	27.3
Female	129	529	43.2	35.0	14.3	—
Prairie Prov.	437	605	18.8	41.1	14.9	25.2
Male	221	313	—	36.7	*17.1	37.3
Female	216	292	29.7	45.8	*12.5	*12.0
British Columbia	113	364	31.9	35.3	*9.4	23.4
Male	67	189	18.5	39.1	*12.8	29.6
Female	66	175	46.4	31.1	—	*16.7

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 7: Percentage of Current Drinkers Reporting Problems Caused by Their Own Alcohol Consumption in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada, 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	All Problems	Freinds/ Social life	Physical Health	Outlook on Life	Home life/ Marriage	Work/ Studies	Financial Position
Total 15-24	1,535	3,173	23.3	8.8	10.7	5.6	4.5	4.8	8.6
Male	763	1,682	28.3	10.7	13.0	* 5.6	* 5.4	* 6.3	12.1
Female	772	1,491	17.6	* 6.7	8.0	* 5.7	* 3.4	* 3.1	*4.7
15-19	610	1,385	23.8	* 8.6	8.9	* 6.1	* 4.5	* 5.1	* 8.1
Male	307	726	28.1	*11.2	*10.9	* 7.6	* 6.4	* 7.6	*12.1
Female	303	659	19.0	* 5.7	* 6.6	* 4.3	—	—	—
20-24	925	1,787	22.9	9.0	12.0	* 5.2	* 4.5	* 4.6	9.0
Male	456	955	28.5	*10.4	14.5	* 3.8	* 4.7	* 5.3	*12.2
Female	469	832	16.5	* 7.4	* 9.2	* 6.8	* 4.2	* 3.7	* 5.4

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 8: Number of Alcohol-Related Problems Caused by Their Own Drinking in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada, 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	No Problems	One Problems	Two Problems	Three + Problems
Total 15-24	1,535	3,173	76.7	13.3	4.6	5.4
Male	763	1,682	71.7	15.8	6.3	6.2
Female	772	1,491	82.4	10.5	2.8	4.3
15-19	610	1,385	76.2	14.4	4.9	4.5
Male	307	726	71.9	14.4	6.4	7.3
Female	303	659	81.0	14.3	3.3	1.4
20-24	925	1,787	77.1	12.5	4.4	6.0
Male	456	955	71.5	16.8	6.1	5.6
Female	469	832	83.5	7.5	2.4	6.6

Source: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada 1989.

■ Table 9: Percentage of Drivers Who Have Driven in the Past 12 Months After Having Two or More Drinks in the Previous Hour, by Age and Sex, Age 15+, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	Driven after 2+ drinks in past hour
Total 15+	7,268	12,988	22.9
Male	3,861	7,370	30.9
Female	3,407	5,582	12.3
15 to 19	344	780	21.2
Male	195	459	26.0
Female	149	321	14.4
20 to 24	748	1,440	30.4
Male	393	798	37.8
Female	353	640	21.1
25 to 34	2,365	3,663	29.7
Male	1,162	1,967	42.5
Female	1,193	1,680	14.8
35 to 44	1,756	3,015	22.5
Male	915	1,599	31.8
Female	835	1,410	12.0
45 to 54	885	1,796	21.1
Male	499	1,061	30.5
Female	382	726	7.2
55 to 64	638	1,352	10.9
Male	357	823	14.0
Female	276	527	5.9
65 +	561	941	8.3
Male	340	662	11.1
Female	219	278	—

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 10: Percentage of Young Canadians Reporting Problems Caused by Other People's Alcohol Consumption in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada, 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Been Insulted or humiliated	Had Arguments or Quarrels	Broke off with a friend	Had Family Problems	Been a Passenger with a drunk driver	Been in a car accident	Property was vandalized	Been pushed, hit, or assaulted	Been disturbed by loud parties	Had Financial Problems
Tot.15-24	1,887	3,899	37.8	32.4	11.3	11.6	23.1	*2.5	7.9	17.5	35.3	*2.4
Male	901	1,983	35.9	29.6	11.1	6.5	27.3	*3.4	6.4	21.1	32.7	—
Female	986	1,916	39.7	35.2	11.5	16.8	18.8	—	9.4	13.9	38.1	*3.3
15-19	838	1,866	34.4	31.7	11.3	10.2	20.9	*2.0	8.5	17.4	31.7	*2.3
Male	412	956	29.6	26.4	*10.5	*6.5	21.0	—	*7.3	20.5	27.2	—
Female	426	910	39.5	37.3	*12.1	14.1	20.8	—	*9.7	14.2	36.4	*2.8
20-24	1,049	2,034	40.9	33.0	11.3	12.8	25.1	*2.9	7.4	17.6	38.7	*2.4
Male	489	1,027	41.8	32.7	*11.7	*6.5	33.1	*4.2	*5.7	21.6	37.8	—
Female	560	1,007	39.9	33.3	*10.9	19.2	17.0	—	*9.1	13.6	39.5	*3.7

- Data not available.
* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 11: Number of Alcohol-Related Problems Caused by Other People's Drinking in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada, 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	No Problems	One Problems	Two Problems	Three + Problems
Total 15-24	1,887	3,899	30.9	22.7	15.6	30.8
Male	901	1,983	30.9	23.5	15.0	30.6
Female	986	1,916	30.8	21.9	16.1	31.2
15-19	838	1,866	33.0	22.2	16.6	28.2
Male	412	956	34.7	26.4	14.5	24.4
Female	426	910	31.1	17.9	18.9	32.1
20-24	1049	2,034	28.9	23.2	14.6	33.3
Male	489	1,027	27.4	20.8	15.5	36.3
Female	560	1,007	30.5	25.6	13.7	30.2

Source: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada 1989.

■ Table 12: Percentage of Canadians Reporting Problems Caused by Other People's Alcohol Consumption in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, by Age and Sex, Canada, 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Been Insulted or humiliated	Had Arguments or Quarrels	Broke off with a friend	Had Family Problems	Been a Passenger with a drunk driver	Been in a car accident	Property was vandalized	Been pushed, hit, or assaulted	Been disturbed by loud parties	Had Financial Problems
Total 15+	11,634	20,285	21.3	16.6	6.2	7.7	10.4	0.9	3.4	7.2	25.9	1.7
Male	5,291	9,920	22.1	16.4	5.9	4.8	12.6	1.3	3.3	9.2	25.7	1.4
Female	6,343	10,365	20.6	16.7	6.5	10.5	8.3	* .6	3.5	5.3	26.1	2.0
15-24	1,887	3,899	37.8	32.4	11.3	11.6	23.1	*2.5	7.9	17.5	35.3	*2.4
Male	901	1,983	35.9	29.6	11.1	6.5	27.3	*3.4	6.4	21.1	32.7	—
Female	986	1,916	39.7	35.2	11.5	16.8	18.8	—	9.4	13.9	38.1	*3.3
25-34	3,059	4,670	25.8	22.1	7.2	10.9	13.4	* .9	4.2	8.5	32.3	*2.2
Male	1,396	2,318	25.4	22.2	7.3	7.2	16.4	*1.3	*4.6	11.3	30.9	*2.3
Female	1,663	2,352	26.2	22.1	7.1	14.6	10.4	—	*3.8	5.8	33.6	*2.2
35-44	2,352	3,962	21.2	13.7	5.8	7.6	8.0	—	*2.2	5.2	27.9	*2.1
Male	1,152	1,971	22.5	13.5	*4.9	*5.7	9.2	—	*1.7	6.8	28.6	*1.7
Female	1,200	1,991	19.8	13.9	6.7	9.5	6.7	—	*2.6	*3.5	27.2	*2.4
45-54	1,371	2,701	16.6	10.8	5.4	5.5	5.9	—	*2.0	*3.8	22.4	*1.4
Male	673	1,349	19.4	12.7	*4.4	*3.8	*6.6	—	*2.3	*4.4	22.9	—
Female	698	1,352	13.8	*8.9	*6.4	*7.1	*5.2	—	—	*3.3	21.8	—
55-64	1,207	2,334	9.7	6.3	*2.1	*3.6	*2.8	—	—	*1.8	17.0	—
Male	529	1,137	*10.3	*5.3	—	—	*3.3	—	—	*2.7	17.0	—
Female	678	1,197	*9.1	*7.3	*2.3	*5.9	*2.4	—	—	—	17.1	—
65+	1,758	2,718	5.1	*3.0	*1.9	*2.9	*1.7	—	—	—	9.8	—
Male	640	1,162	*6.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*10.5	—
Female	1,118	1,557	*4.2	*3.6	*2.5	*4.7	—	—	—	—	9.2	—

- Data not available.
* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 13: Reasons for Drinking, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	To Be Sociable	To Enjoy Meals	To Feel Good	To Relax	Forget Worries	To Feel Less Inhibited
Total 15-24	1,535	3,173	69.1	32.2	42.4	39.4	16.3	23.1
Male	763	1,682	67.6	33.5	45.1	43.5	18.8	24.5
Female	772	1,491	70.7	30.7	39.4	34.8	13.4	21.5
15-16	186	422	56.4	35.0	46.4	33.2	24.0	29.3
Male	98	218	47.4	36.0	44.6	39.9	*25.1	*24.3
Female	88	203	66.0	33.9	48.3	*26.0	*22.7	34.6
17-19	424	964	66.2	29.1	40.9	38.7	18.3	27.7
Male	209	508	69.4	30.0	45.9	45.7	22.0	31.4
Female	215	455	62.6	28.2	35.4	30.9	*14.2	23.6
20-24	925	1,787	73.7	33.2	42.3	41.2	13.4	19.2
Male	456	955	71.4	34.8	44.8	43.2	15.6	20.9
Female	469	832	76.3	31.4	39.5	39.0	*10.8	17.2

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 14: Number of Times Consumed Five or More Drinks on One Occasion, by Reasons for Drinking, Age 15 to 24, Canada, 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Number of Times Had 5+ Drinks				Average Number of drinks Per Week
			0	1-5	6-14	15+	
To be Sociable	1,140	2,191	28.9	35.7	14.1	21.3	3.8
To Enjoy Meals	406	1,021	38.1	32.0	11.5	18.3	3.8
To Feel Good	653	1,346	25.1	34.9	16.1	29.4	5.2
To Relax	641	1,250	23.9	36.6	16.1	23.4	5.0
To Feel Less Shy	372	733	15.0	21.8	32.0	33.1	4.1
To Forget	278	516	20.3	33.2	*11.0	35.4	6.5

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 15: Frequency of Drinking by Drinking Companions in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	Never	< Once Per Month	Few Times/ Month	Once/ Week or More
FRIENDS						
Total 15-24	1,535	3,173	4.7	29.8	35.9	29.4
Male	763	1,682	*2.9	25.8	33.1	38.3
Female	772	1,491	6.7	34.4	39.1	19.4
15-16	186	422	*16.4	39.9	30.9	*12.8
Male	98	218	*16.3	38.6	31.6	*13.5
Female	88	203	*16.5	41.4	30.0	*12.1
17-19	424	964	*4.7	28.3	38.9	28.0
Male	209	508	—	26.0	35.9	37.4
Female	215	455	*9.2	30.9	42.2	*17.4
20-24	925	1,787	*1.9	28.3	35.5	34.1
Male	456	955	—	22.7	31.9	44.4
Female	469	832	*3.0	34.7	39.5	22.2
SPOUSE/PARTNER						
Total 15-24	1,535	3,173	83.8	6.4	6.2	3.6
Male	763	1,682	88.9	*4.1	*3.8	*3.2
Female	772	1,491	78.0	9.0	8.9	*4.1
15-16	186	422	98.7	—	—	—
Male	98	218	99.2	—	—	—
Female	88	203	98.2	—	—	—
17-19	424	964	95.9	—	—	—
Male	209	508	98.5	—	—	—
Female	215	455	92.9	—	—	—
20-24	925	1,787	73.8	10.1	10.2	5.9
Male	456	955	81.5	*6.6	*6.4	*5.5
Female	469	832	64.9	14.1	14.6	*6.4
RELATIVES						
Total 15-24	1,535	3,173	29.0	46.7	18.8	5.3
Male	763	1,682	29.6	40.8	23.2	6.4
Female	772	1,491	28.2	53.3	13.9	*4.2
15-16	186	422	*19.0	64.1	*14.0	—
Male	98	218	*19.3	61.3	*17.1	—
Female	88	203	*18.7	67.1	—	—
17-19	424	964	36.9	43.4	14.5	*5.1
Male	209	508	40.7	34.2	19.1	*6.0
Female	215	455	32.6	53.7	*9.3	—
20-24	925	1,787	27.0	44.3	22.3	6.0
Male	456	955	26.0	39.7	26.8	*7.5
Female	469	832	28.2	49.7	17.2	*4.4

Source: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada 1989.

continued next page

Table 15: Frequency of Drinking by Drinking Companions in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989 (Cont'd)

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	Never	< Once Per Month	Few Times/ Month	Once/ Week or More
CO-WORKERS						
Total 15-24	1,535	3,173	59.9	20.7	12.4	6.7
Male	763	1,682	53.1	22.1	15.4	9.4
Female	772	1,491	67.6	19.2	9.1	*3.7
15-16	186	422	87.3	*8.3	—	—
Male	98	218	85.0	—	—	—
Female	88	203	89.8	—	—	—
17-19	424	964	66.3	16.7	12.0	*4.9
Male	209	508	60.5	*17.2	*14.9	*7.4
Female	215	455	72.7	*16.1	*8.8	—
20-24	925	1,787	50.0	25.8	14.6	9.3
Male	456	955	41.8	27.3	18.3	12.6
Female	469	832	59.3	24.2	*10.3	*5.5
ALONE OR WHEN OTHERS ARE NOT DRINKING						
Total 15-24	1,535	3,173	84.3	8.3	5.2	*2.1
Male	763	1,682	77.1	11.4	8.3	*3.2
Female	772	1,491	92.3	*4.8	—	—
15-16	186	422	90.0	*5.0	—	—
Male	98	218	87.1	—	—	—
Female	88	203	93.1	—	—	—
17-19	424	964	85.0	*9.2	*4.3	—
Male	209	508	78.4	*12.6	*6.5	—
Female	215	455	92.5	*5.4	—	—
20-24	925	1,787	82.5	8.6	6.0	*2.7
Male	456	955	74.2	11.7	*9.8	*4.2
Female	469	832	92.1	*4.9	—	—

- Data not available.
* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 16: Frequency of Drinking While Participating in Different Activities and Usual Number of Drinks Consumed per Occasion, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	Never	1/2 the Time/Less	> 1/2 the Time	Usual # Drinks per Occasion
QUIET EVENING AT HOME						
Total 15-24	1,517	3,129	69.9	28.3	* 1.7	2.08
Male	750	1,649	67.5	29.8	* 2.4	2.23
Female	767	1,480	72.6	26.7	—	1.88
15-16	184	408	79.8	*18.7	—	1.93
Male	97	212	76.0	*24.0	—	1.46
Female	87	197	83.8	*13.1	—	2.69
17-19	417	944	80.4	17.9	—	2.29
Male	204	490	78.3	*18.3	—	2.71
Female	213	454	82.6	*17.4	—	1.73
20-24	916	1,777	62.1	36.0	* 1.9	2.04
Male	449	947	60.0	37.0	* 2.9	2.20
Female	467	829	64.4	34.9	—	1.84
VISIT SOMEONE ELSE'S HOME						
Total 15-24	1,488	3,041	35.8	55.3	8.9	2.58
Male	737	1,610	31.2	58.7	10.1	2.90
Female	751	1,430	41.0	51.4	7.6	2.16
15-16	181	412	49.8	46.2	—	2.37
Male	94	210	43.5	50.7	—	2.75
Female	87	202	56.2	41.5	—	1.87
17-19	404	903	40.9	51.0	* 8.1	2.62
Male	200	485	35.5	53.4	*11.1	2.71
Female	204	418	47.1	48.2	—	2.49
20-24	903	1,726	29.9	59.6	10.5	2.60
Male	443	916	26.1	63.3	*10.6	3.02
Female	460	810	34.1	55.5	*10.4	2.07
HAVE FRIENDS/RELATIVES VISIT YOUR HOME						
Total 15-24	1,469	2,995	38.6	50.9	10.4	2.36
Male	720	1,553	34.8	53.8	11.3	2.60
Female	749	1,443	42.7	47.9	9.4	2.07
15-16	181	408	45.0	48.6	* 6.4	1.69
Male	95	207	41.9	52.0	—	1.88
Female	86	201	48.1	45.0	—	1.46
17-19	405	906	49.4	45.5	* 5.2	2.35
Male	196	461	43.1	50.3	* 6.6	2.52
Female	209	445	55.9	40.5	—	2.12
20-24	883	1,680	31.3	54.5	14.2	2.49
Male	429	884	28.9	56.0	15.0	2.76
Female	454	796	34.1	52.7	13.2	2.16

■ Table 16: Frequency of Drinking While Participating in Different Activities and Usual Number of Drinks Consumed per Occasion, Age 15 to 24, by Age and Sex, Canada 1989 (Con't).

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	Never	1/2 the Time/Less	> 1/2 the Time	Usual # Drinks per Occasion
GO TO A RESTAURANT FOR AN EVENING MEAL						
Total 15-24	1,342	2,821	40.0	40.7	19.1	1.72
Male	658	1,485	37.5	40.7	21.8	1.89
Female	684	1,337	42.8	40.8	16.1	1.53
15-16	156	380	71.5	24.9	—	1.40
Male	81	199	68.8	*25.2	—	1.54
Female	75	181	74.5	*24.5	—	1.22
17-19	354	814	53.0	32.7	14.1	1.69
Male	166	413	47.8	37.3	*14.9	
Female	421	754	27.0	51.5	21.2	1.50
GO TO A RESTAURANT FOR LUNCH						
Total 15-24	910	1,727	83.6	13.6	* 2.8	1.52
Male	452	947	79.7	16.1	* 4.2	1.69
Female	458	780	88.3	*10.6	—	1.17
15-16	98	202	94.9	—	—	1.32
Male	50	100	97.4	—	—	1.68
Female	48	102	92.5	—	—	1.20
17-19	230	482	89.1	* 8.3	—	1.29
Male	115	272	84.8	*10.7	—	1.33
Female	115	210	94.7	—	—	1.17
20-24	582	1,043	78.8	17.7	* 3.5	1.58
Male	287	574	74.2	21.0	* 4.8	1.79
Female	295	469	84.4	*13.7	—	1.17
GO TO A BAR OR TAVERN						
Total 15-24	1,072	2,172	* 3.7	18.1	78.1	3.91
Male	553	1,191	—	13.7	84.5	4.42
Female	519	981	* 6.3	23.4	70.3	3.25
15-16	46	108	—	—	82.1	3.15
Male	29	60	—	—	77.9	3.95
Female	17	48	—	—	87.3	2.35
17-19	265	631	* 5.0	19.8	75.2	3.99
Male	133	345	—	*16.4	83.3	4.29
Female	132	286	*10.8	*23.8	65.4	3.57
20-24	761	1,432	* 2.5	18.2	79.1	3.92
Male	391	785	—	13.4	85.5	4.51
Female	370	647	* 4.6	24.1	71.2	3.18

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■ Table 16: Frequency of Drinking While Participating in Different Activities and Usual Number of Drinks Consumed per Occasion, Age 15 to 24, by Age and Sex, Canada 1989 (Con't).

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	Never	1/2 the Time/Less	> 1/2 the Time	Usual # Drinks per Occasion
GO TO A CLUB OR MEETING						
Total 15-24	676	1,308	67.5	22.9	9.5	2.28
Male	360	751	65.6	22.3	*12.1	2.53
Female	316	557	70.2	23.7	* 6.1	1.88
15-16	60	148	79.4	*20.4	—	1.98
Male	31	79	85.6	—	—	1.83
Female	29	69	72.4	—	—	2.07
17-19	180	393	73.3	*19.7	* 7.0	2.24
Male	97	241	70.0	*22.1	—	2.22
Female	83	152	78.6	*15.9	—	2.29
20-24	436	767	62.3	25.0	*12.6	2.32
Male	232	431	59.4	23.9	*16.6	2.71
Female	204	337	66.0	26.5	* 7.6	1.74
LEISURE ACTIVITIES						
Total 15-24	1,168	2,359	34.8	44.1	21.1	4.34
Male	610	1,321	28.9	45.9	25.2	4.92
Female	558	1,038	42.3	41.8	15.9	3.42
15-16	141	307	60.9	34.1	—	2.84
Male	78	160	57.6	*35.2	—	3.17
Female	63	147	64.6	*32.9	—	2.41
17-19	322	711	41.3	45.5	13.2	3.67
Male	166	405	36.1	49.7	*14.2	4.11
Female	156	306	48.2	39.9	*11.9	2.96
20-24	705	1,341	25.3	45.6	29.0	4.79
Male	366	756	19.0	46.1	35.0	5.46
Female	339	585	33.5	45.1	21.4	3.74
SPORTS ACTIVITIES						
Total 15-24	1,153	2,457	74.2	18.7	6.9	2.63
Male	630	1,419	68.5	22.3	9.0	2.76
Female	523	1,037	82.0	13.7	* 4.1	2.32
15-16	156	348	92.7	—	—	4.82
Male	87	187	90.8	—	—	3.94
Female	69	162	94.9	—	—	6.64
17-19	325	752	80.9	*12.0	* 7.1	2.30
Male	181	452	76.5	*14.6	* 9.0	2.35
Female	144	300	87.5	—	—	2.14
20-24	672	1,356	65.8	25.8	8.3	2.61
Male	362	780	58.5	30.7	*10.7	2.83
Female	310	576	75.5	19.0	* 5.0	2.10

■ Table 16: Frequency of Drinking While Participating in Different Activities and Usual Number of Drinks Consumed per Occasion, Age 15 to 24, by Age and Sex, Canada 1989 (Con't).

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	Never	1/2 the Time/Less	> 1/2 the Time	Usual # Drinks per Occasion
PARTY, SOCIAL GATHERING OR WEDDING						
Total 15-24	1,400	2,816	8.6	33.2	58.0	3.90
Male	693	1,475	8.6	28.3	62.7	4.46
Female	707	1,341	8.5	38.6	52.7	3.28
15-16	165	363	*12.3	56.3	30.9	3.38
Male	85	183	—	54.7	*35.0	3.39
Female	80	181	*15.2	58.0	*26.8	3.36
17-19	386	850	15.6	32.3	52.2	3.79
Male	191	451	*16.1	30.3	53.6	4.19
Female	195	399	*14.9	34.5	50.6	3.35
20-24	849	1,604	* 4.1	28.5	67.1	4.06
Male	417	842	* 4.5	21.6	73.7	4.81
Female	432	762	* 3.6	36.1	59.9	3.24
CONCERT/GAME/FESTIVAL						
Total 15-24	1,128	2,324	61.6	25.0	13.4	3.37
Male	600	1,319	55.6	27.6	16.8	3.76
Female	528	1,005	69.5	21.7	* 8.8	2.64
15-16	147	307	82.3	*11.5	—	3.13
Male	80	171	76.1	*14.2	—	3.42
Female	67	135	90.1	—	—	2.25
17-19	326	733	67.9	21.6	*10.5	3.91
Male	168	405	65.9	*21.6	*12.5	4.92
Female	158	327	70.4	*21.5	* 8.1	2.47
20-24	655	1,285	53.0	30.3	16.7	3.18
Male	352	742	45.1	34.0	20.9	3.39
Female	303	543	63.8	25.2	*11.0	2.75

- Data not available.
* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 17: Attitudes and Beliefs Concerning Alcohol Consumption in Various Situations, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	No Drinking	1-2 Drinks	Enough to Feel the Effects	Don't Know
AT A PARTY OR SOMEONE ELSE'S HOME						
Total 15-24	1,887	3,899	8.4	55.1	31.1	4.8
Male	901	1,983	7.1	50.4	36.8	5.4
Female	986	1,916	9.8	60.0	25.3	* 4.2
15-16	308	664	15.7	53.1	24.2	* 7.1
Male	166	357	*14.5	52.1	26.0	* 7.5
Female	142	308	*17.0	54.2	*22.2	—
17-19	530	1,201	8.7	58.3	29.0	* 3.3
Male	246	599	* 5.6	60.4	31.6	—
Female	284	602	*11.7	56.4	26.5	* 4.5
20-24	1,049	2,034	5.9	53.9	34.6	5.0
Male	489	1,027	* 5.4	44.0	43.5	*6.7
Female	560	1,007	* 6.4	63.9	25.5	*3.2
FOR A MAN OUT AT A BAR WITH HIS FRIENDS						
Total 15-24	1,887	3,899	5.0	50.7	36.9	6.9
Male	901	1,983	* 4.3	48.8	41.6	5.1
Female	986	1,916	5.7	52.8	32.1	8.7
15-16	308	664	* 4.5	59.3	29.4	* 6.7
Male	166	357	—	59.1	31.7	—
Female	142	308	—	59.6	26.8	*10.7
17-19	530	1,201	* 3.8	52.6	36.8	* 6.2
Male	246	599	—	59.1	37.8	—
Female	284	602	* 7.0	46.2	35.7	*10.1
20-24	1,049	2,034	5.8	46.8	39.4	7.3
Male	489	1,027	* 5.9	39.2	47.1	* 7.4
Female	560	1,007	* 5.7	54.6	31.5	* 7.2

■ Table 17: Attitudes and Beliefs Concerning Alcohol Consumption in Various Situations, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989. (Con't)

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	No Drinking	1-2 Drinks	Enough to Feel the Effects	Don't Know
FOR A WOMAN OUT AT A BAR WITH HER FRIENDS						
Total 15-24	1,887	3,899	6.7	58.4	28.5	6.0
Male	901	1,983	6.6	54.0	32.6	6.6
Female	986	1,916	6.8	62.9	24.2	5.4
15-16	308	664	* 6.0	65.8	22.2	* 6.1
Male	166	357	* 8.1	67.2	*21.5	—
Female	142	308	—	64.1	*22.9	* 9.4
17-19	530	1,201	* 6.9	58.3	28.4	* 5.8
Male	246	599	* 4.5	59.9	29.7	* 5.7
Female	284	602	* 9.3	56.8	27.1	* 5.8
20-24	1,049	2,034	6.8	56.0	30.5	6.1
Male	489	1,027	* 7.3	46.0	38.1	* 8.2
Female	560	1,007	* 6.2	66.1	22.8	* 3.9
FOR A COUPLE HAVING DINNER AT HOME						
Total 15-24	1,887	3,899	13.7	62.0	17.2	6.6
Male	901	1,983	13.2	62.2	16.9	7.5
Female	986	1,916	14.3	61.7	17.5	5.6
15-16	308	664	*13.7	63.2	15.9	* 7.2
Male	166	357	*17.3	64.5	*12.8	—
Female	142	308	* 9.5	61.8	*19.6	* 9.1
17-19	530	1,201	14.1	64.9	15.0	* 5.6
Male	246	599	*12.9	68.9	*13.8	* 4.5
Female	284	602	*15.3	60.9	*16.1	* 6.8
20-24	1,049	2,034	13.6	59.8	19.0	6.9
Male	489	1,027	12.0	57.5	20.2	10.0
Female	560	1,007	15.1	62.3	17.7	* 3.8

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■ **Table 17: Attitudes and Beliefs Concerning Alcohol Consumption in Various Situations, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989. (Con't)**

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	No Drinking	1-2 Drinks	Enough to Feel the Effects	Don't Know
FOR CO-WORKERS OUT FOR LUNCH						
Total 15-24	1,887	3,899	55.8	38.3	* 1.0	4.4
Male	901	1,983	52.2	41.8	* 1.4	* 4.5
Female	986	1,916	59.4	34.8	—	* 4.4
15-16	308	664	56.7	37.1	—	* 5.2
Male	166	357	55.1	39.6	—	—
Female	142	308	58.7	34.1	-	* 7.2
17-19	530	1,201	52.6	40.4	—	* 5.5
Male	246	599	48.3	47.7	—	—
Female	284	602	56.8	33.1	—	* 8.0
20-24	1,049	2,034	57.3	37.5	—	* 3.5
Male	489	1,027	53.5	39.1	—	* 5.7
Female	560	1,007	61.2	35.9	—	—
WITH FRIENDS AT YOUR HOME						
Total 15-24	1,887	3,899	18.8	50.8	26.1	3.9
Male	901	1,983	19.7	46.1	29.9	* 4.2
Female	986	1,916	17.8	55.6	22.2	* 3.6
15-16	308	664	31.7	45.9	17.6	* 4.8
Male	166	357	36.9	39.2	*21.2	—
Female	142	308	*25.6	53.8	*13.4	—
17-19	530	1,201	22.3	47.7	25.5	* 4.0
Male	246	599	22.2	46.0	29.0	—
Female	284	602	22.3	49.4	22.1	* 5.3
20-24	1,049	2,034	12.5	54.1	29.2	* 3.5
Male	489	1,027	12.2	48.5	33.4	* 5.5
Female	560	1,007	12.8	59.8	24.9	—

■ **Table 17: Attitudes and Beliefs Concerning Alcohol Consumption in Various Situations, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989. (Con't)**

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	No Drinking	1-2 Drinks	Enough to Feel the Effects	Don't Know
WITH FRIENDS AFTER WORK						
Total 15-24	1,887	3,899	37.6	49.3	7.5	5.0
Male	901	1,983	32.5	50.3	10.9	6.0
Female	986	1,916	42.9	48.4	* 3.9	* 4.0
15-16	308	664	45.4	42.5	* 5.6	* 6.6
Male	166	357	46.1	39.7	* 7.8	—
Female	142	308	44.4	45.6	—	—
17-19	530	1,201	41.1	45.7	* 6.8	* 5.8
Male	246	599	34.1	48.0	*11.5	* 6.1
Female	284	602	48.1	43.3	—	* 5.6
20-24	1,049	2,034	33.0	53.8	8.5	* 4.1
Male	489	1,027	26.9	55.2	11.7	* 5.9
Female	560	1,007	39.3	52.3	* 5.2	—
WITH PEOPLE AT SPORTS EVENTS OR RECREATION						
Total 15-24	1,887	3,899	48.4	39.2	7.6	4.4
Male	901	1,983	42.7	42.8	9.5	* 4.8
Female	986	1,916	54.2	35.4	5.7	* 3.9
15-16	308	664	57.6	29.6	* 6.1	* 6.7
Male	166	357	56.6	31.6	—	—
Female	142	308	58.7	27.4	—	—
17-19	530	1,201	56.0	34.6	* 6.3	* 2.6
Male	246	599	49.1	39.9	* 8.5	—
Female	284	602	62.9	29.4	* 4.2	—
20-24	1,049	2,034	40.8	44.9	8.9	* 4.7
Male	489	1,027	34.1	48.4	11.6	* 5.6
Female	560	1,007	47.7	41.4	* 6.2	* 3.7

- Data not available.
* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 18: Smoking Status of Young Canadians, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada, 1989.

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	Never Smoked	Former Smoker	Current Smoker
Total 15-24	1,887	3,899	55.9	13.7	30.3
Male	901	1,983	58.1	12.3	29.6
Female	986	1,916	53.8	15.2	31.0
15-16	308	664	76.0	*11.3	12.6
Male	166	357	80.8	*8.8	10.4
Female	142	308	70.5	*14.3	15.2
17-19	530	1,201	59.3	12.6	28.0
Male	246	599	57.2	*14.4	28.2
Female	284	602	61.4	*10.8	27.8
20-24	1,049	2,034	47.5	15.1	37.4
Male	489	1,027	50.7	12.2	37.0
Female	560	1,007	44.2	18.0	37.7

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 19: Number of Cigarettes Smoked per Day (Current Smokers), by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada, 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Cigarettes Smoked Per Day		
			1 to 10	11 to 25	Over 25
Total 15 to 24	657	1,182	35.4	58.2	*3.9
Male	314	588	29.0	62.7	*5.8
Female	343	594	41.7	53.6	—
15-16	60	84	62.9	*28.5	—
Male	31	37	*64.3	—	—
Female	29	47	*61.8	—	—
17-19	174	338	45.1	50.5	—
Male	78	170	*35.3	60.6	—
Female	96	167	55.0	*40.1	—
20-24	423	760	28.0	64.9	* 5.7
Male	205	380	*22.8	66.4	* 8.3
Female	218	380	33.3	63.4	—

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 20: Smoking Status of Young Canadians, by Region and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada, 1989.

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	Never Smoked	Former Smoker	Current Smoker
Total 15-24	1,887	3,899	55.9	13.7	30.3
Male	901	1,983	58.1	12.3	29.6
Female	986	1,916	53.8	15.2	31.0
Atlantic Prov.	652	385	51.5	14.5	33.6
Male	315	196	49.9	13.6	35.5
Female	337	190	53.1	15.4	31.6
Quebec	262	960	53.2	15.6	31.2
Male	113	488	56.7	*13.5	29.9
Female	149	472	49.6	*17.8	32.6
Ontario	316	1,433	59.7	10.9	29.4
Male	150	730	60.9	*9.3	29.9
Female	166	703	58.6	*12.6	28.8
Prairie Prov.	501	695	50.9	13.7	35.4
Male	245	353	53.8	12.8	33.4
Female	256	342	47.8	14.6	37.5
British Columbia	156	426	62.1	18.1	19.9
Male	78	216	66.1	*17.6	*16.3
Female	78	210	57.9	*18.6	*23.5

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 21: Number of Cigarettes Smoked per Day (Among Current Smokers), by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	1 to 10 Cigarettes Daily	11 + Cigarettes Daily
Total 15-24	635	1,153	36.3	63.7
Male	303	574	29.7	70.3
Female	332	579	42.8	57.2
Atlantic Prov.	238	127	34.8	65.2
Male	121	68	23.0	77.0
Female	117	59	48.4	51.5
Quebec	84	286	29.2	70.8
Male	34	142	15.9	84.0
Female	50	143	42.5	57.6
Ontario	104	418	39.7	60.3
Male	49	215	40.4	59.6
Female	55	203	38.9	61.1
Prairie Prov.	173	238	34.4	65.7
Male	83	113	31.6	68.4
Female	90	125	36.8	63.2
British Columbia	36	84	50.8	49.2
Male	16	35	27.4	72.6
Female	20	49	67.5	32.5

Source: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada 1989.

■ Table 22: Percentage of Young Canadians who Used Selected Illicit Drugs, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Marijuana or hash		Cocaine or crack		LSD, Speed, or Heroin		No Use
			Ever	Last Year	Ever	Last Year	Ever	Last Year	
Total 15 to 24	1,887	3,899	33.6	15.5	4.9	*2.5	4.6	*1.6	66.0
Male	901	1,983	36.8	19.1	5.7	*3.2	5.5	*2.0	62.9
Female	986	1,916	30.3	11.7	*4.1	*1.9	*3.7	—	69.2
15 to 16	308	664	14.5	*10.8	—	—	—	—	85.5
Male	166	357	*13.1	*10.4	—	—	—	—	86.9
Female	142	308	*16.1	*11.5	—	—	—	—	83.9
17 to 19	530	1,201	28.0	13.2	*3.5	*2.6	*5.9	*2.5	71.7
Male	246	599	29.1	16.6	*4.3	—	*6.5	—	70.7
Female	284	602	26.9	*9.8	—	—	*5.2	—	72.8
20 to 24	1,049	2,034	43.1	18.4	7.0	*3.1	*4.7	—	56.2
Male	489	1,027	49.4	23.7	*8.2	*4.0	*6.0	—	49.9
Female	560	1,007	36.7	13.0	*5.8	—	*3.3	—	62.6

■ Table 23: Percentage of Young Canadians who Used Selected Illicit Drugs, by Region and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada, 1989

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Marijuana or hash		Cocaine or crack		LSD, Speed, or Heroin	
			Ever	Last Year	Ever	Last Year	Ever	Last Year
Total 15 to 24	1,887	3,899	33.6	15.5	4.9	*2.5	4.6	*1.6
Male	901	1,983	36.8	19.1	5.7	*3.2	5.5	*2.0
Female	986	1,916	30.3	11.7	*4.1	*1.9	*3.7	—
Atlantic Prov.	652	385	30.1	12.8	—	—	*3.9	—
Male	315	196	31.5	15.6	—	—	*6.0	—
Female	337	190	28.6	*9.8	—	—	—	—
Quebec	262	960	32.1	16.9	*7.5	*4.3	*5.2	—
Male	113	488	33.3	19.3	*8.0	*5.2	—	—
Female	149	472	30.9	*14.6	*6.9	—	—	—
Ontario	316	1,433	28.7	12.8	*3.1	—	*3.3	—
Male	150	730	30.9	*16.3	—	—	—	—
Female	166	703	26.4	*9.1	—	—	—	—
Prairies	501	695	37.3	13.0	*4.3	*1.9	*4.9	—
Male	245	353	43.7	19.5	*7.1	—	*7.5	—
Female	256	342	30.8	*6.4	—	—	—	—
British Columbia	156	426	50.3	27.6	*9.0	*6.3	*7.9	—
Male	78	216	57.6	*31.1	*11.0	—	*8.7	—
Female	78	210	42.8	*24.0	—	—	*7.2	—

- Data not available.
* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 24: Frequency of Marijuana/Hashish Consumption in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, by Age and Sex, by Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Frequency of Consumption		
			<1/Mth	1-3/Mth	1 or More/Wk
Total 15 to 24	286	604	46.2	27.4	*22.7
Male	182	380	40.8	29.2	*24.9
Female	104	224	55.4	*24.5	*19.0
15 to 16	32	72	*57.2	*32.9	—
Male	21	37	*45.5	—	—
Female	11	34	*69.8	—	—
17 to 19	73	159	*52.3	*20.0	*21.3
Male	47	100	*54.9	—	—
Female	26	59	*47.8	—	—
20 to 24	181	374	41.6	29.6	25.8
Male	114	243	*34.3	*32.5	*28.4
Female	67	131	*55.0	*24.1	*20.9

- Data not available.
* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 25: Frequency of Marijuana/Hashish Consumption in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, by Region, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Frequency of Consumption		
			<1/Mth	1-3/Mth	1 or More/Wk
Total 15 to 24	286	604	46.2	27.4	*22.7
Atlantic Prov.	85	49	61.3	*17.7	*16.2
Quebec	42	163	*43.7	*36.1	*20.3
Ontario	43	183	*53.7	*19.5	*21.9
Prairie Prov.	72	90	*26.8	*39.4	*24.3
British Col.	44	118	*46.9	*22.7	*28.9

- Data not available.
* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ **Table 26: Percentage of Population who used Selected Illicit Drugs, by Age and Sex, Age 15+, Canada, 1989**

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Marijuana or hash		Cocaine or crack		LSD, Speed, or Heroin	
			Ever	Last Year	Ever	Last Year	Ever	Last Year
Total 15+	11,634	20,285	23.2	6.5	3.5	1.4	4.1	*0.4
Male	5,291	9,920	28.9	8.9	4.5	2.0	5.1	*.5
Female	6,343	10,365	17.7	4.1	2.7	*.8	3.1	—
15 to 19	838	1,866	23.2	12.3	*2.5	*1.9	*4.5	*2.1
Male	412	956	23.1	14.3	—	—	*4.9	—
Female	426	910	23.3	*10.3	—	—	*4.2	—
20 to 24	1,049	2,034	43.1	18.4	7.0	*3.1	*4.7	—
Male	489	1,027	49.4	23.7	*8.2	*4.0	*6.0	—
Female	560	1,007	36.7	13.0	*5.8	—	*3.3	—
25 to 34	3,059	4,670	43.0	10.5	8.6	3.3	7.5	—
Male	1,396	2,318	51.7	15.2	10.6	*4.9	8.6	—
Female	1,663	2,352	34.4	6.0	6.7	*1.8	6.5	—
35 to 44	2,352	3,962	25.8	4.5	*2.3	—	5.9	—
Male	1,152	1,971	33.6	6.2	*3.2	—	7.7	—
Female	1,200	1,991	18.2	*2.8	*1.5	—	4.1	—
45 to 54	1,371	2,701	10.0	*1.2	—	—	*1.5	—
Male	673	1,349	16.5	—	—	—	*2.6	—
Female	698	1,352	*3.5	—	—	—	—	—
55 to 64	1,207	2,334	*2.4	—	—	—	—	—
Male	529	1,137	*3.3	—	—	—	—	—
Female	678	1,197	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	1,758	2,718	*1.2	—	—	—	—	—
Male	640	1,162	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	1,118	1,557	—	—	—	—	—	—

- Data not available.
* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 27: Percentage of Population who Used Selected Licit Drugs in the Month Preceding the Survey, by Age and Sex, Age 15+, Canada, 1989

	Sample Size N	Pop. Est (000s)	Sleeping Pills	Tranquil-izers such as Valium	Diet pills or stimulants	Anti depress-ants	Codeine demerol morphine
Total 15+	11,634	20,285	3.6	3.1	0.9	2.0	5.0
Male	5,291	9,920	2.5	1.8	*.5	1.5	4.3
Female	6,343	10,365	4.6	4.3	*1.2	2.4	5.7
15 to 24	1,887	3,899	*1.0	*.9	*1.3	—	5.6
Male	901	1,983	—	—	—	—	*5.3
Female	986	1,916	—	—	—	—	*5.9
25 to 34	3,059	4,670	*1.3	*1.4	*.8	*1.3	5.6
Male	1,396	2,318	—	—	—	—	5.3
Female	1,663	2,352	*1.6	*1.8	—	*1.7	5.9
35 to 44	2,352	3,962	*2.4	*2.6	*1.4	*2.1	5.8
Male	1,152	1,971	*1.9	*1.7	—	*2.1	*4.5
Female	1,200	1,991	*2.9	*3.5	*2.4	*2.1	7.1
45 to 54	1,371	2,701	4.5	5.0	—	*2.8	*4.1
Male	673	1,349	—	*2.9	—	—	*3.6
Female	698	1,352	*7.1	*7.1	—	*3.8	*4.7
55 to 64	1,207	2,334	*4.6	6.0	—	*3.3	*3.7
Male	529	1,137	*3.0	—	—	—	—
Female	678	1,197	*6.2	9.6	—	*4.8	*5.2
65+	1,758	2,718	11.1	5.4	—	*2.9	*4.0
Male	640	1,162	10.3	*3.5	—	*2.6	*3.3
Female	1,118	1,557	11.6	*6.8	—	*3.2	*4.5

- Data not available.
* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed

SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 28: Percentage of Young Canadians who Used Selected Drugs[1] in the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, by Age and Sex, Age 15 to 24, Canada 1989.

	Sample Size (N)	Pop. Est. (000s)	Number of Selected Drugs Used			
			0	1	2	3 or more
Total 15 to 24	1,887	3,899	15.0	48.0	25.0	12.0
Male	901	1,983	12.0	50.0	24.0	14.0
Female	986	1,916	17.0	46.0	26.0	11.0
15-16	308	664	32.0	47.0	*16.0	*4.0
Male	166	357	34.0	51.0	*11.0	—
Female	142	308	30.0	43.0	*22.0	—
17-19	530	1,201	15.0	52.0	22.0	11.0
Male	246	599	*9.0	58.0	20.0	*13.0
Female	284	602	21.0	45.0	24.0	*9.0
20-24	1,049	2,034	*9.0	46.0	30.0	16.0
Male	489	1,027	*6.0	45.0	31.0	18.0
Female	560	1,007	*11.0	47.0	28.0	13.0

[1] Selected Drugs include: tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, LSD, heroin, sleeping pills, tranquillizers and perscription opiates

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.

■ Table 29: Pattern of Alcohol and Other Drug Use, by Age 15+, Canada 1989.

	Total 15+	15-19 Years	20-24 Years	25-34 Years	35-44 Years	45-54 Years	55-64 Years	65+ Years
No drug used	14.6	20.9	8.5	8.8	9.9	13.5	16.9	31.1
Alcohol only	43.5	45.9	42.6	44.9	46.6	43.1	42.7	36.9
Tobacco only	4.4	3.2	2.7	3.0	4.6	6.1	6.1	5.8
Alcohol + Tobacco	20.0	11.8	20.7	24.6	24.0	22.9	20.6	8.3
Medical Only	2.1	1.1	0.3	0.7	1.2	2.8	3.3	6.5
Alcohol + Medical	4.8	3.7	2.5	4.1	4.9	5.8	6.0	6.7
Tobacco + Medical	0.9	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.8	1.0	1.5	2.3
Alc. + Tob. + Med.	2.8	0.9	3.3	2.4	3.6	3.6	2.6	2.3
Cannabis only	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	—	—
Alcohol + Cannabis	2.1	4.5	6.4	3.4	1.4	0.1	—	0.1
Tobacco + Cannabis	*	—	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—
Alc. + Tob. + Cann.	2.4	3.8	7.9	3.4	1.6	0.6	0.3	—
Other Pattern	2.3	4.0	4.7	4.2	1.3	0.3	—	—

Source: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, Canada 1989.

* High Sampling Variability
— Data Suppressed
SOURCE: HWC, National Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey, 1989.